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DO ABOUT THEIR DEBT

A League Of Their Own

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In Hollywood

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Oscar Nominee For
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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE MARCH 29, 1993 VOL 106 NO 13

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COVER

A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN

Many females in the film industry contend that, despite the tributes to women at the Oscars on March 28, they suffer discrimination in Hollywood. But stars, including Academy Award nominee Susan Sarandon, and dozens of female producers, directors and screenwriters are fighting for better status for women film-makers—and better roles for actresses in the movies.

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BUSINESS

THE DEBTS OF THE PROVINCES

Saskatchewan Treasurer Janice MacKinnon raised taxes, bond and corporate taxes last week to try to contain the highest per capita provincial debt in Canada. Developmental credit rating agencies are advising the other provinces to follow suit—if they want to continue borrowing abroad.

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CANADA

MULRONEY'S GRIP ON THE RACE

Defence Minister Ken Campbell and Environment Minister Jean Charest have attracted much of the attention so far in the Tory leadership race. But a third figure also dominates the campaign. Until he leaves office, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney has no intention of loosening his grip on the party.

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LETTERS

High-tech future

In your cover story of March 15 ("Where the jobs are"), you make a distinction between so-called high-tech and low-tech jobs. It is artificial, as it distorts the reality of the marketplace. Today, underground mining, for example, is not a low-tech industry. It runs very sophisticated three-dimensional computer modelling technology, underground communication systems, computers in planning functions and automated and continuous mining systems. Those activities require very different skills than those required only a few years ago. Every job in every industry is becoming high-tech. It is not necessary to re-tool manufacturing jobs to "lower-cost, less-developed countries" if we adapt and turn it to our advantage. That requires management, labor and government all to think differently. But, above all, it requires that every employer has a sound education, skills to match the job and flexibility to adapt to ever-changing situations.

Adrian D. Dabir,
Guelph, Ont.

While reading "Where the jobs are," I was immediately reminded of the recent "What's wrong at school?" cover story (Jan. 12). The school articles received personal demands for a return to the basics. They failed to properly capture the essence of the historic philosophy guiding our modern school systems: "Where the jobs are" actually provided the most comprehensive rebuttal to your earlier school article, providing strong evidence to support a continued emphasis on co-operative skills, flexibility, adaptability and computer literacy. These very attributes form the basis of modern school programs. I thank you and your readers a new language based on a synthesis of the two articles that provides a more complete image of what schools are trying to accomplish.

Anne Norriss,
St. Catharines, Ont.

In "Where the jobs are," surely you forget the gold-collar jobs and their presidents all levels of government.

G. M. Sandhu,
Windsor, D.C.

Speculation and blame

While I am mostly troubled by the speculative nature of Allan Fotheringham's recollection and conjecture (Feb. 2), I am sure, and to his knowledge for example, I beg to agree



IBM software lab: belief that every job in every industry is becoming high-tech.

to be pointing out a clear falsehood in his March 15 column ("Time Canada trapped on techworld"). It is no more than Allan Gregg, John Tey or I (commentary or other polling results) to the Prime Minister relative to his electability. As to the difference between the prime Prime Minister: "hazy, charming, generous, loyal, a guy to be with" to quote the Irish, and the personified and accepted public persona, many of us who have worked with the Prime Minister accept legitimate blame for not finding ways to more Canadians to appreciate the great decency, generosity and compassion of this compelling leader. I wonder if the Fourth Estate might care to reflect on its own responsibility in this regard.

Wagh Syed,
Chief of Staff,
Office of the Prime Minister,
Ottawa

The unforgiven

In all the years that I have been reading *Maclean's*, I have never disagreed so vehemently with so much of its contents ("The Mulroney years," Cover, March 5). I find it hard to believe that contributions to the various articles are written about the most unpopulous Prime Minister in Canadian history. By the time I reached Peter C. Newman's essay, dramatically headed "Governing under siege," I was beginning to wonder where these people have been for the past eight years. What really annoyed me is that *Maclean's* had the arrogance to lead a politician that nearly 90 per cent of us ordinary Canadians feel has done a lousy job.

Russell Schilling,
Ottawa, Ont.

Brian Mulroney typifies the hesitancy of our political system. Where early success is apparently based on our set of financial rules, the nation's success is measured in opposite one. Mulroney's pride in party alone sessions—"we don't owe anybody a single cent"—is offset by the fact that national policies have resulted in a combined debt of more than \$650 billion. Yes, we do need a new Constitution. Hopefully, it will be one that sets a gross domestic product percent age limit on government spending.

Wm. Lammberg,
Trenton, N.J.

Chances to Drive Frodo ("The man who did what he knew was right" Column, March 15). Finally, an article about him. Mulroney was wrong! Unfortunately, many Canadians are too dumbfounded to see that tough measures were needed. Mulroney's courage, foresight and willingness to make the tough decisions were the reasons he was elected twice. It is indeed a "bad day for Canada" and history will not forget him in such.

Patricia Rigg,
Edmonton, Ont.

Pricking the Leafs

Remember "Just plain folks" (Sporting News, March 15) and strange names in the National Hockey League, please keep in mind that these Kenora Thistles were also the 1887 Stanley Cup winners—about the last time Toronto was, I believe.

David Suckner,
Kenna, Ont.

Letter may be confused. Please verify name, address and telephone numbers. Please include the editor's telephone number. Address: Peter C. Newman, 111 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5H 2P4. Tel: (416) 363-7330.

LETTERS

Dinosaurs among us

George Bain should know that "the popular features of the modern woman—intelligence, self-reliance, success and success" applies to a minority of women. He should know that the rule vice and the "conventional ingredients and pressures" are as threatening to some women as a gun to the head. He should know all that, yet he chooses to use "green" or "nature" as "unwieldiness" as the key to female submission and suggests that it is a job (PA questionnaire concerning, "Media Watch," March 15). Such history books support to understand sex will abuse by males. Dinosaurs are still with us. Clifford Trenchard,
Ottawa, Ont.

I must confess the unusual ability of a job applicant to stand up to the whimsy of the "adverse-conditions" camp and take a look at what are the real issues of our living Canadian women. I doubt that there are many women out there who lose any sleep worrying about the "psychological safety" all being put down or torn at. Most women (and men) could recall experiencing that type of "advice" on their drive to work in the morning. It is a hard research at this type that continues to

discriminate and harm the feminist movement. Most people would rather hear about relevant research regarding gender issues instead of the pointless fear mongering, which marginal men and women alike will agree.

Joyce Hordick,
Prince Albert, Sask.

A sporting chance

What is the Canadian magazine industry afraid of? PA tries to respect the law of the land. *Business Week*, March 19 if this industry was successfully attracting Canadian readers, advertisers would stay, no matter how many U.S. publications "invaded this country." It is not a matter of cheaper ads—it is a case of who has the product that the consumers want. Keeping a Canadian sports magazine and readers and advertisers will stay. Otherwise, *Sports Illustrated* has every right to compete. That is the essence of free trade and the magazine industry should not be exempt.

John Davis,
Markham, Ont.

The March 1 issue carried a rather disturbing overview by Peter C. Newman of the relentless push by forces south of the border to dominate not only our economy but also our way of life. Also warning us the magazine that our current Prime Minister may feel entitled, with the ar

rive of *Sports Illustrated* Canada, is written in his diary the two words "massive accomplishment." Philip Gaudinich,
Windsor, Sask.

Peter C. Newman suggests that Time Canada is either breaking the law or intends to break the law. In fact, Time Canada has always complied with all elements of the Income Tax Act and Section 19 has been an exception. And it will comply with the tax code. I would agree that the Canadian magazine industry is healthier than Newman realizes. Canadian readers get paid for their domestic magazines and spend their credit for being able to withstand competitive storms. Will *Sports Illustrated* be Canadian? The answer is, just as Canadian as the Blue Jays, the Expos, the NHL, Canadian Open Golf and Canadian Open Tennis. In the world of sports, borders are disappearing. Canadian-owned magazines already have a huge commercial advantage over foreign-owned magazines produced in Canada because of the income tax Act and preferential postal rates. Why is further protection of the sort advocated by Newman necessary in the 1990s?

Shelley Berry,
Managing Director, Time Canada Ltd.,
Toronto

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OPENING NOTES

Shevardnadze exposed, betting on a casino and curious flu cures

A HOT TOPIC IN GEORGIA

A Canadian-produced documentary has become a hot property in the former Soviet republic of Georgia. In January, 1992, armed rebels ousted democratically elected president Zviad Gamsakhurdia and installed Eduard Shevardnadze, the widely respected former Soviet foreign minister, as chairman of the Georgian State Council. Since then, according to *Out of the Shadows*, a TV documentary produced by Toronto's Discovery Productions, Shevardnadze's supporters have established a reign of terror in his native Georgia. Filmed from February to June, 1992, the documentary alleges that the wartime police chief has used his ties with the KGB, a powerful Georgian crime ring, to control power behind the scenes. Among other sources of violence, the film includes footage of Shevardnadze's guests being led to anti-Shevardnadze protest rallies—killing seven people and wounding 26. Out of the Shadows has aired officially only in Austria, Japan and the United States. But on March 7, a private copy appeared on Channel 1 in Tbilisi—interesting as news broadcast—was played for half an hour before authorities intervened to halt the transmission. Documentary producer Robert Roy speculates that the signal carrying the show may have originated in nearby Chachno-Ingushetia, where Gamsakhurdia and his supporters are in hiding. Roy says:



Shevardnadze: a signal from an enemy?

WORD FOR WORD

HOSPITAL GREEN

Excerpt from "Hospital Exposed here in the United States and Canada," a computerized study published last month in *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

If the United States had the same spending patterns as Canada, the annual savings in 1989 would have exceeded \$30 billion.

Canadian acute care hospitals have more admissions, more outpatient visits and more inpatient days per capita than hospitals in the United States, but they spend approximately less. The reasons include higher administrative costs in the United States . . . and more efficient use of equipment and personnel in Canada.

In Canada, specialized procedures are performed in a relatively small number of large hospitals, whereas in the United States each community hospital provides a wide variety of [such] services. . . . After adjustment for differences in population size, in 1987 there were 700 more intensive care hospital beds with units providing open-heart surgery in California than in Ontario.

In Canada, centralization, without an national and the establishment of waiting lists result in less idle time for high-cost equipment and subsequent personnel.

Canadian patients pay a price. The more decentralized hospital system can cause only or inconvenience in obtaining access to specialized services. . . . On the other hand, the quality of care in American hospitals may suffer where complex procedures are performed relatively infrequently in smaller hospitals.



Tough Lady calling

Twenty years ago, Myra Goldstein left the Bronx and moved to Vancouver to get away from New York City crime. But even on Canada's West Coast, the days when most women could just walk along down a dark street are long gone. In December, 46-year-old Goldstein founded to put her New York's street smarts to work by launching Tough Lady patrol, a door-to-door service that specializes in personal safety devices for women. Among Tough Lady's most eye-catching perogative: repellent spray (200 a bottle, or \$30 in a vinyl bag chain case)—a burglar alarm that sounds like the bark of a raging Doberman pincer (10/30); and a flashlight/personal alarm that emits an ear-piercing shriek (3/30). According to Goldstein, many of her customers have been victims of crime or are mothers trying to protect their daughters. "If women walk around all alone in the past thinking that nothing will happen to them," she says, "it's like the stomach and stomach attitude."

FEED A COLD, APPLY RADISHES TO A FEVER?

Michael's Moscow Heron Chief Malinda Gray, like many of the city's new medical residents, recently fell victim to the flu. And like any Moscow with even a minor tingle, Gray was immediately advised by Russian friends, acquaintances and perfect strangers giving what most claimed was the perfect home remedy: Some Russian cold and flu treatments, not necessarily recommended by Michael's.

- Gargle with hot water containing 15 drops of iodine and a teaspoon each of salt and baking soda.
- Rub the fingers with lemon juice mixed heavy poured into a sugar-out mixture.
- Cook the sides of the feet with mustard and then dip into a pair of warm socks for 15 minutes (mustard may be substituted with ground raw horseradish).



Moscowites on winter: radishes, mustard and ground beets

- Apply crushed raw radishes to the chest.
- For shingles or measles, squeeze two onions and dip the juice into the sores with a vinegar solution over a two-day period (mustard may be substituted or may be substituted).
- For stubborn scalp dandruff: rub the yolk and white of a boiled egg on the cheeks and place a cloth over the head while shining a blue light into the eyes.
- For varicella, stilt press into the sores.
- For sore throats: pour the sores with small amounts of horseradish or onion juice (not recommended for smokers).

GAMBLING 101

The gamble paid off. Last month, after the Ontario government's decision to legalize gambling, the province's casino, St. Clair College in Windsor, Ont., approved a new three-week card game program to attract blackjack. In October, the college hit the jackpot: four days before it began to recruit students, the province agreed to make Windsor the site of the first casino. "It was a huge coincidence," said Don Fisher, dean of the St. Clair campus, who heads the province's business department, who heard two experienced dealers to teach the 18-hour, two-



students must have a unique composition and good mood character. The school started a second session in January to handle demand from students eager to work in the Windsor casino, which could open as soon as early this November. Fisher said, additional comes in roulette, poker and other forms of gambling will have to wait. "We can't just guess what games will be approved," Fisher added. "That would be too much of a risk."

PASSAGES

DEED: Actress Ellen Hayes, 53, of congestive heart failure. In August in New York City. Known as the first lady of American theater, the dramatic (5-foot, 100 lbs.) star was also known for her love and TV appearances. Her roles ranged from Queen Victoria to Agatha Christie's detective Jane Marple and a character from Shakespeare, for which she was named after the Academy Award. She said her professional debut at age five and was still acting with her life on the principle that, as she put it, "it just cost, you know."

INFORMED: Film writer Woody Allen, 57, and actress Mia Farrow, 47, by a team of child-care experts in New Haven, Conn., following accusations that Allen neglected the couple's seven-year-old adopted daughter, Dylan. Allen said that the report contained his own and was his own. Allen has custody battle with his former lover. Since officials said that they would review the report and then decide whether to lay charges.

DEED: Newspaper publisher David Davis, 77, following several strokes in a Vancouver hospital. Publisher of the Vancouver Sun for 22 years until he sold it in 1964, he also owned publishers and developed news services for his clients. He was known for his economic assignments, in the late 1950s he sold his fashion editor in Cuba, where he was on exclusive interview with Fidel Castro, thus described a football columnist to his former business partner Chung Shu-shan.

DEED: Screenwriter and director Michael Kuizel, 42, of congestive heart failure, in a Los Angeles hospital. He shared (with Josh Kurlander Jr.) an Academy Award for best original screenplay in 1980 for the comedy *Home of the Year*, starring Katherine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy. In the first of two movies they made together until they died in 1987.

Maclean's BEST-SELLER LIST

FICTION

- 1 *The Client*, Graham (1)
- 2 *Griffin & Sabine*, Fawcett (3)
- 3 *The English Patient*, Ondaatje (19)
- 4 *Solitaire's Notebook*, Ondaatje (2)
- 5 *Green Glass*, Running Water, King (17)
- 6 *The Bridge of Madison County*, Wall (10)
- 7 *The Tell-Tale Heart*, Stevenson, Doyle (3)
- 8 *To Green Angel Tower*, Williams
- 9 *Remed*, Goodrich (18)
- 10 *Degree of Guilt*, Polanski (3)

NONFICTION

- 1 *Women Who Run With the Wolves*, Jells (3)
- 2 *Shifting Gears*, Jells (3)
- 3 *Healing and the Mind*, Jells (4)
- 4 *Twelve of Debt*, Pinter (12)
- 5 *Crazywater*, Menzies (3)
- 6 *Notably Nowhere*, Williams
- 7 *The Great Rocking*, Jells and Jim McG
- 8 *Systems of Survival*, Williams (3)
- 9 *Preparing for the Twenty-first Century*, Kennedy (3)
- 10 *Marlene Dietrich*, Jells (17)

17 Positive list and
Compiled by Brian Bell

My Maria died.

A TRUE STORY

When I arrived in the Philippines so many years ago, one of the first things I did was to fall in love. She had fine black hair and she used to wear a bright orange dress. She had big, big eyes that would always focus on me, and when she smiled, oh how she would smile! She lived in one of those tropical bays on the shore, the ones you see in postcards, and when she would see me coming, she would run to me so fast in her legs could carry her. My Maria was only two years old!

One day, I was caught in one of those sudden tropical downpours and I ended up with a bad cold. Being one of only two foreigners on the whole island, I was treated into the provincial hospital with nurses to watch over me by day, and "midwives" for while the nurses were off-duty, and all the care and thoughtfulness that only the Filipinos can lavish on you. After a week in the hospital, my cold went away (I stayed home, it would have taken seven days), and I went down to find my Maria.

But my Maria had died. She too had been caught in the same downpour. She too caught a cold. But when she was lying on her mat in the corner, the wind blew through the bamboo walls and the bamboo floor of the postcard tropical bay, and she caught bronchitis or pneumonia or something terrible, and there was no money for medicines or the doctor and the world's strong enough to fight it. So while I rested in my hospital bed, my Maria was buried in her tropical island. That was fifteen years ago.

Today, I met another two year old who stole my heart, Mariana. I met her in the malnutrition ward of the provincial hospital where she and her mother had been brought. You see, Foster Parents Plan weighs all the little children in our partner families to make sure they're growing properly, and Mariana was not. She was slowly starving because her father couldn't earn enough as a market porter to support his wife and children. Mariana developed a fever,

and Cose the community worker had her admitted into the hospital at once. (Lack that Cose found her in time, before she died! Not really, Foster Parents Plan keeps a tab on over 15,000 children every month, every year.) I went to see her and to see how PLAN was helping. The doctors were fine, but just the beginning. Mariana's mother had been to the Mother's Nutrition Clinic we run last month. We couldn't find work for Mariana's father, but we are teaching him how to raise goats so that Mariana and her brothers and sisters can get a glass each of fresh, clean, body-building, life-saving milk every day, and so that her father can earn a little more money with his new skill. And there's the tablet Foster Parents Plan's helping them put in next month, and the fresh water project in their village by the end of the year, and a few other things as well.

So, when I came home tonight, I couldn't help thinking about Maria and Mariana. The difference between them isn't all that big. It's just that PLAN has been able to catch one more little girl before she slipped through our fingers and was wasted forever. And, of course, we couldn't be over here if people like you weren't over there.

So if anyone ever tells you that helping through PLAN doesn't matter too much, you can do something for me. Just tell them that what you are about to do is making all the difference in the world. All the difference between Maria and Mariana. Help to prove that post today-become a Foster Parent. You just might fall in love with your own Mariana.



Mariana

Chris Papworth

Chris Papworth
Foster Parents Plan

COLUMN



The female refugee: a fraudulent concept

BY BARBARA AMIEL

On a slow day, I read some releases. So it was that I came upon the March 3, 1989, release from Vancouver, British Columbia, of the Immigration and Refugee Board. Mrs. Chair person, so it turned out, was celebrating International Women's Day by hanging to about Canada's newly issued "guidelines on women refugees relating to gender-related persecution." Maria bells started to go off when I got by someone explaining that Canada's new policies in this field "represent an international first."

The guidelines were duly sent to me. What the Canadian government has done is to extend the UN definition, which says that a refugee is someone who has a "well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion" to include gender. The result is that, as of now, a woman from another country who claims that she is persecuted because she is a female, has grounds for refugee status in this country.

In case it needs to be stated, I don't think much of societies that put women in such, arrange marriages or force abortions. I haven't shared opinions on this. My opposition to these guidelines is not because I like South African society. The problem is that these guidelines are hypocritical, arrogant and full of anomalies that render them bogus.

The anomalies begin with the guideline that lives in a group for religious status "gender discrimination" religious or customary laws and practices in their country of origin." It goes on to explain, "The religious precepts, social traditions or cultural norms, which women may be accused of violating, may range from choosing their own husbands to accepting an arranged marriage to such matters as the wearing of makeup, the visibility or length of hair, or type of clothing a woman chooses to wear."

To say that these would be grounds for

refugee status when "the penalty for non-compliance with the policy or law is disproportionately severe" is a total loss because it is applied as written, arbitrary criteria of people from all over the world will make that claim, come here and be accepted. Those who do not then turn around and sponsor the husbands or family members whose approach to gender relations gave them refugee status in the first place. I met dozens of Muslim women in the Middle East a few weeks ago, and many of them (and their husbands) were asking how they could get out of their countries. At the time, I did not know of Christopher Mowatt's criticism, but I am sure we will get around it.

In practice, there is little doubt that these guidelines would have to be selectively administered and have any selective interpretation they will be influenced largely by the day-to-day political climate. For example, during the Gulf War, Muslim women from Iraq might have been accepted while their Saudi counterparts would not. What happened was I met the 30 pages of instructions from Mowatt was that, while many countries were engulfed out by come, there was no mention of China, where a war-child

family policy tends to the murder of female babies. I would not have been opened by a mention of China for North Korea for that matter, but I found the release revealing. Even on the news, and you will see the second anomaly. A lot of people would like to escape ethnic cleansing in Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia. Are we now to find a situation in which a male claimant's plan for refugee status is to be heard down because he is not trying to escape political persecution that only the consequences of war and hardship, while a Bosnian woman who wants to escape exactly the same conditions will state that is a woman's society she has certain disadvantages?

Clearly, under the guidelines, a woman who has "persecution of her" has grounds for refugee status. "Such cases," according to the guidelines, "typically involve violence or other forms of harassment against women in order to pressure them into revealing information about the whereabouts or political activities of their family members." It is a habit of native societies to try and have mothers to betray their sons or brothers, even though they themselves are not guilty of anything that will Canada make a mother who suffers persecution for protecting her son eligible for refugee status, but not a mother who protects her daughter or wife? But Mowatt can't afford that women are often actively involved in fighting oppressive societies and they may well have made him who are vulnerable? If "the persecution" is an eligible ground for refugee status, why isn't gender?

Canada has become a bit of a joke country abroad, but this is an arrogant place. I am not a great supporter of Islam—all the worse, it is not an artificial construct that makes no sense. Nor is it a society without rules for men, except of which are every bit as playful and psychologically sophisticated for them. Mowatt wants to state us "that this is not a matter of imposing Western standards on other countries." Oh really? She discounts that by listing a number of UN conventions about the rights of women, but the obvious specific is that a woman's refugee status will only be allowed if a country is a signatory to these guidelines. If the term "cultural oppression" can be applied to the report of Coca-Cola, what is that?

One can get angry at this because it is cultural imperialism, but it is a pity in the case coming from the sort of people who screamed cultural imperialism for the past decades whenever one talked about the advantages of liberal democracy. One thinks also of Canada's support of the UN's unchangeable definition of political refugees, or so-called racism, religion, who we denied refugee status when they were coming from countries where merely trying to leave was in itself a crime punishable by imprisonment. But, look, Christopher Mowatt, these are guidelines we were commissioned with, not to make any degree of consistency or honesty, they would apply to virtually every woman who does not have the assumptions of Canada's post-1945 culture. You hear it in the 100-per-cent Canadianism of cultural imperialism.

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Charest after outbidding in Sherbrooke. Mulroney has demonstrated a desire to have a hand in picking the mantle.

CANADA

IN MULRONEY'S GRIP

In the race to succeed Bette Mulroney as Conservative party leader and prime minister, three people have really risen to play dominant roles. First, there is the front runner, Defence Minister Kim Campbell. When Campbell makes her expected leadership announcement this week in Vancouver, her supporters will include most of the party's best-known figures, including a majority of cabinet ministers, drawn from all regions of the country. Then, there is the challenger, Enforcement Minister Jean Charest, who changed his mind several times to leave any game, his candidacy last week. He is considered the only candidate with even a remote chance of beating her. But Campbell and Charest face mutual reminders of the power and influence wielded over the party's future by one other Tory: Brian Mulroney himself. As the next takes shape, Mulroney has made it especially clear that, until his departure from office, he has an intention of keeping his one grip on the party or its job seat. Said one cabinet minister: "The Prime

AT A CABINET MEETING, THE PRIME MINISTER WARNED AGAINST COMMITTING 'A HOSTILE ACT'

Mulroney is as active in overruling his successors as he has been in everything else."

Mulroney has demonstrated his desire to have a hand in picking the mantle over since his Feb. 24 resignation announcement. Shortly afterwards, he successfully pressured the party to approve a \$800,000 spending limit governing most campaign expenses, and he warned prospective candidates not to use

government aircraft or employ government-paid staff in their campaigns. More recently, the Prime Minister's efforts have been more subtle—but no less significant.

In one instance, Mulroney has learned, Campbell's advisors urged her to resign from cabinet in a gesture to deterring the race. By doing so, she could devote full attention to the campaign, and distance herself from controversial government policies, such as her department's plan to spend \$4.4 billion for new helicopters. An irritated Mulroney, who had already warned candidates not to criticize his government's record during the race, told his cabinet ministers that he would regard any attempt by a minister to leave cabinet in order to run for the leadership as "a hostile act." Still, senior Tories say that while Campbell will support the helicopter purchase plan during the race, she will re-evaluate the decision if she wins the leadership.

Nevertheless, some Tories say that Mulroney has been discreetly giving support

to Lewis Campbell. One longtime friend of the Prime Minister noted that for "his very uncharacteristic" several early announcements of intent by Campbell supporters—even in the months before he announced his resignation. But despite Mulroney's careful attention, close associates concede that he, like everyone else, initially underestimated the breadth of Campbell's strength. They say that the Prime Minister was startled by the tidal wave of support for Campbell—and discouraged by the effect it had on other potential candidates in a Mulroney's poll among Tory party members and potential leadership convention delegates conducted by Ottawa-based CIBC/ABC research. Campbell was the overwhelming first choice, supported by 38 per cent of respondents. No other Tory drew more than eight per cent of the vote. One day after the poll was released, Communications Minister Pierre Pettigrew, who had been considered a certain candidate, announced that he would not run and threw his support behind Campbell. In addition to Charest, the field includes backbenchers Garth Turner and Patrick Beyer. And Alberta MP James Edwards, a well-respected, bilingual backbencher, is entering the race this week.

Warned that he might be embarrassed by a poor showing, Charest said came close to backing out. He met with Mulroney privately the day before his announcement and solicited advice from close friends and supporters, many of whom had divided emotions and opinions because they questioned his ability

to raise enough money to run a credible campaign. "All the people who have to raise the money told him that in no way could one afford," said the people who get to spend the money told him to run." Why he announced his candidacy in his home riding of Sherbrooke, many Tories presumed that he had been given a guarantee of financial support from senior party figures who were eager to have at least one credible candidate challenge Campbell. But Charest's friends insist that it was not the case—and dismiss suggestions that he is running only to increase his profile for a future leadership contest.

A key figure when Charest wanted was his wife, Michelle Duceau, who supported him. He finally agreed to make up his mind after a 2 a.m. telephone call to the Ottawa country of Toronto on the night before his announcement. The call was to Denis Brundage, an old friend and highly respected Quebec Tory organizer, now a foreign news wire official assigned to that country. Brundage, who encouraged him to run, is expected to take a leave of absence from his post to play a key role in Charest's campaign. Other major figures are David Sweet, well-known for his role in the 1993 election, and Transport Minister Jean Corbiere, who will be one of his two national campaign chairmen—the other has yet to be named. Prominent supporters also include Alberta Premier Ralph Klein and former Saskatchewan premier Grant Devine. And, by the end of last week, Charest's supporters claimed the backing of nearly 50 of the party's 208-member caucus.

While Charest is considered a moderate on social issues, his campaign will try to win the more traditional right wing elements of the party—like Lewis Campbell, who lost by becoming an activist such as fiscal restraint. The strategy is aimed directly at grassroots elements of the party, polls reportedly show that they are more conservative than the party's MPs and senators, most of whom have been elected since 1993. Campbell camp Charest began his work by negotiating the need to control the federal deficit, and he suggested that the principle of universal access to social programs may have to be abandoned. The most important message he has been spreading is to "let's those who need it the most, which is not the same as helping everyone," he told reporters after his announcement.

That notion may bring Charest into direct conflict with Mulroney, who suggested that shoddy government access to health care, in particular, would "perhaps not" be the best priorities to adopt. "But at his campaign kick-off in Sherbrooke, Charest declared that one reason for running was to "renew debate over policy at all levels of society." As he begins his campaign for the next few weeks, he is expected to have decided that the debate should tackle the views of the current coalition of 24 Senate Doves.

ANTHONY WALSH-SMITH is in Sherbrooke with LINDA FERRIER in Ottawa.

PROFILING A KALPA

According to a personality profile released by the RCMP, a white male over 30 years old—who may have had a troubled childhood—engaged the RCMP in a battle over money at Yellowknife's Strathcona (Glen) golf course last September. The profile, compiled with the aid of the FBI, says that the suspect has a deep-seated need for respect, may seek intimacy with a female of confidence and is seeking the funds to "operating in an area with which he was familiar and very comfortable and confident." Unconsciously, the suspect is aware that it is possible that he is directly at the golfing course.

A PLACE, OF SORTS

British Columbia's New Democratic government and the province's three main health-care unions agreed a landmark agreement intended to promote labor peace in the health sector of the province's plans to eliminate 4,800 jobs—a 15-per-cent cut—at some over hospitals. Under the pact, workers who lose their jobs will be offered employment at community health-care facilities.

EXTENDING A SEARCH

Police obtained a one-month extension of the warrant allowing forensic experts to search the St. Catharines, Ont., home of Paul Bernier, a suspect in the deadly 1992 shooting of a taxi driver, 13, of St. Catharines and Leslie Mulroney, 34, of nearby Burlington. Police have also had three days of 40 scheduled charges against Bernier, who they claim is the so-called Scarborough sniper who terrorized victims in the Toronto suburbs between 1992 and 1993.

STOPPING THE USAGMATTERS

Dozens of anti-environmentalists entered the B.C. legislature and almost broke into riotous behavior during a speech from the throne for almost 30 minutes. The protesters, some of them teenagers, called for a ban on logging in the Clayoquot Sound area of western Vancouver Island. New Premier Michael Harcourt walked in as the protesters, saying that "I don't believe in people that use mob-sector intimidation."

TROUBLE IN CANADIAN

The New York Times reported that the Justice Minister, Michael Harcourt, or Party of Canada, has established an anti-crime fund in Canada intended to support terrorist operations in North America. Officials with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service declined to comment on the report.

THE TORY RACE

The biggest surprise so far in the Tory leadership race is the list of potential contenders who decided to work from the shadows—including cabinet ministers like Clark, Michael Wilson, Barbara McDougall, Donald McEwen, Bernard Valcourt, Pierre Pettigrew and Cite Joffe. By last week, only two cabinet ministers, Charest, Toronto-based Patrick Beyer and Toronto-area MP Garb Turner had challenged the supposed backing of Defence Minister Kim Campbell, who is expected to announce her candidacy this week to her home riding of Vancouver Centre.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I've always been interested in going to the people in any one province who are very hostile to the federal industry. They instantly live in nice big houses and have good breeding facilities."

—Kim Campbell on the environmental movement

An Island showdown

Callbeck is the favorite in the P.E.I. vote

The 38 residents of Charlottetown's senior citizens' home voted patriotically, many in wheelchairs, as the soft tones of a piano rolled through the airy hall. Finally, 20 minutes late, the guest of honor arrived. Premier Callbeck circled the room, shaking hands and greeting potential voters in her mezzanine voice. The number of a well-known island business

month by Halifax-based Corporate Research Associates Inc., the Liberals held a commanding lead with 69-percent support compared with 23 per cent for the Conservatives and four per cent for the NDP, led by 43-year-old substitute teacher Larry Dochow. Callbeck has many. She has also retained the provincial Liberal party's over-



An artist's conception of the fixed link between New Brunswick and the island.

lively as well as a former provincial cabinet member and federal MP, she was a familiar face to most of the elderly residents. But there was a noticeable mood of disappointment where, after 20 minutes, Callbeck's handlers ushered the tall, elegantly tailored politician off to the next campaign stop with out giving her time to speak at the podium, which had been set up at the front of the room. "Isn't she going to say anything," a thin, elderly man wearing a red Liberal pin wondered aloud. That remark notwithstanding, he echoed a criticism that has dogged the 55-year-old Liberal leader during the first half of a four-week provincial election campaign.

The lack of drama during the run-up to the March 26 election stems largely from Callbeck's own popularity. Despite her wooden speaking style, her track record in business and politics has earned her a large following in the province since taking over the premiership from the popular Joseph Ghisla, who resigned last October and now is dean of Dalhousie University's law school in Halifax, instead, in a jail released earlier this



winsome populists, in part, by backing the policies of her predecessor, including the controversial proposed highway bridge to the New Brunswick mainland. Callbeck's personal opponent is Conservative Leader Patricia Melia, 48, a former high school teacher who took over the party in November, 1998. Tempered by the fact that both of her party's incumbent MLAs have declared in two weeks of dissolution the Liberals held 28 seats in the 32 seat legislature, with one independent and one vacancy, Melia has tried to generate support

Callbeck (left), Melia: on uncertain future



by staging a series of town hall-style meetings. But the strategy has so far had only limited success.

Whether the Tories can narrow the gap is uncertain. For her part, Melia told *Maclean's* "Everywhere I go people tell me that job creation is the number 1 issue." But with the provincial deficit likely to balloon to \$475 million this year, so from the previous \$265 million, some voters question whether Melia can actually deliver on her promise of tax incentives for businesses and publicly funded day care. Declared Santa Martin, owner of a Charlottetown day care center: "How can you promise what you can't pay for?"

It is unlikely that the incumbent Liberals will lose to worry about promising voters too much. Even defunct party members acknowledge that Callbeck, who retained the leadership in a heated battle against two rivals in January, has failed to spell out how she would reduce the province's 18-percent unemployment rate, the third-

highest in Canada. Says Theresa Ford, a second-year arts student at the University of Prince Edward Island who was a delegate at the Jan. 23 convention: "I'm still waiting to hear specifics." Even without them, Callbeck's chances appear excellent. Said Keith Lord of Charlottetown, a mixed potato shopper and wine owner: "I like what I see in her."

At present, Callbeck's biggest hurdle is not the election but the future of the fixed link to the mainland. According to the province, the proposed concrete and steel span—4.7 km long—it will be one of the world's longest highway bridges over a sea channel—is badly needed both to encourage trade and tourism and to pump money into the provincial economy. The Conservatives' Melia also supports the \$500-million project, with the NDP the only official political opposition.

However, barriers to the project, approved by the New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island governments, but still awaiting an agreement between Ottawa and project contractor Strait Crossing Inc. of Calgary, remain. Last week the Federal Court of Canada ruled that Ottawa should conduct an environmental assessment of the project. That could delay construction for up to two years. Declared Donald Stewart, a Charlottetown dentist and spokesman for the anti-bridge lobby group Friends of the Island: "Pushing the project back that far could stop it altogether."

That would be an awkward job for Callbeck if it is as unlikely who still holds the keys to the province's office after March 26.

JERRY DEMERY in Charlottetown

a husband.

I CAN'T PRETEND
ANYTHING EVER HAPPENED.
I KEEP SEEING HER
WITH HIM IN MY MIND.





Cross with family, an *Macleod's* cover (the large image of the swaggering gunman)

Lasagna unmasked

Ronald Cross speaks out about Oka

FOR 13 days in the summer of 1990, he helped a beleaguered band of gun-toting Mohawks arm a small Quebec town explore the world's attention. His masked face and belligerent manner eventually came to symbolize the entire sorry affair known as the Oka Crisis. In the opinion of his supporters, Ronald Cross, better known by his code name Lasagna, was a hero—a testament to the force spirit of native peoples everywhere. His critics viewed him as a thug, a strutting bully in camouflage in flaps and combat boots. But Cross has never told his own story, not even during his 11-month trial, where he was not called to testify, and which resulted in his conviction on 30 charges arising from the crisis. But last week, Cross, currently free on \$50,000 bail as he awaits an appeal of his conviction, finally decided to speak in an exclusive interview with *Macleod's*. He revealed that the man behind the mask looks on himself as neither hero nor villain but rather as a vulnerable victim anxious to clear his name. "I may have had more balls than brains," he confessed, "but I sure don't know how the hell I acquired this reputation as an outstanding criminal. I think it's time I set the record straight."

New 35, Cross still evinces the image of

the swaggering gunman who appeared on the cover of *Macleod's* and about nightly on television screens across the country—and indeed around the world. But the intervening years have left their mark on the Brooklyn-born streetwarrior. The shoulder-length black curls are now solidly grey. His burly frame carries an added 40 pounds. And, in what may be the most telling change of all, there are two new tattoos on his bulging biceps—one commemorating his 1990 marriage and the other celebrating the birth of his son. "I'm an honest, hardworking, family man," he maintained as he sat sipping coffee in the tiny kitchen of the two-bedroom house he shares with his wife, Nadine, and 14-month-old Jerry on the Kahnawake reserve south of Montreal. Cross breezily dismissed his public image—and career situation—as the same, often salty language of the New York City streets where he

was raised. "They're beating my chops," he declared. "It pisses me off. I want to do something about it."

What he intends to do over the course of the next few months is mount a counterattack. Late in April, Montreal publishing company Les Éditions Sédès will launch a French-language book about Cross. Titled *The Man Behind the Mask*, it was written by Montreal author, journalist and lawyer Jean Séguin and consists in large part of tape-recorded conversations conducted with Cross while he was in prison two years ago—ending with "It's really Séguin's story, told in Séguin's words," explained Séguin, who says that she had been introduced to write the book for two principal reasons. "As a lawyer, I was not entirely comfortable

with the justice of this particular case. As a francophone Quebecer, I also wanted to expiate a little of the guilt I have always felt about the way my own people have treated the natives in this province."

Les Éditions Sédès is currently negotiating contracts for the book's English-language translation—targeted for publication early this summer. In the meantime, Cross himself is about to embark on a publicity campaign for the French book, a development that will place him squarely back in the public eye. It is not a prospect he relishes. "I have to admit I'm not looking forward to it," he told *Macleod's*. "I'm a private person. Until the whole business at Oka, I never was part of *Macleod's* police. I'm not a member of

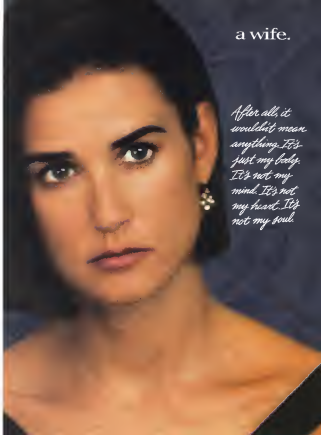
the Warner Society, despite what they say. I don't belong to any of the *Esquimaux* factions. I'm not part of the breed council crowd." Passing to man a hand through his long grey locks, he smiled wryly. "But I got to do something to get out of this mess."

By his own account, Cross could easily have escaped the entire affair. The son of a Kahnawake-born Mohawk father and an American mother of Italian and Scottish descent, he maintains that he stumbled into the

Oka crisis quite by accident. In the spring of 1990, he was living in his native Brooklyn. Suddenly someone at the gathering storm over the town of Oka's planned expansion of a golf course onto lands claimed by

a wife.

After all, it wouldn't mean anything. It's just my body. It's not my mind. It's not my heart. It's not my soul.



Mohawks in the bordering community of Kahnawake. Cross spent his days high over New York, rolling together the steel frames of rising skyscrapers. His earnings marked the beginning of his trouble. "I was a steady guy making \$1,500 to \$2,000 a week," he recalled. "I was drinking a lot and smoking even more." During a weekend visit in May, 1990, to friends and relatives at Kahnawake, the lethal combination of alcohol and cocaine resulted in a bar fight, which cost him a \$250 fine and two nights in jail.

It was his first encounter with the law—but, he says, enough to convince him that he needed help. Kahnawake, where his mother moved to in 1977 from Kahnawake after the death of her husband, had a native drug and rehabilitation centre. Cross then went to meet his mother—and to work treatment. "I was going to see my mother and then check myself into the alcohol and drug rehabilitation centre to try to beat the booze and the drugs," he recalled. "I ended up in the treatment centre all right—but for a very different reason."

That centre eventually became the final haven for the Mohawks involved in the armed struggle—first with the *Séneq du Québec* (SQ), later with the Canadian armed forces. After Cross's arrival at Kahnawake, he joined the Mohawks behind the barbed wire. On Sept. 30, he was among the 20 inmates who emerged from the centre to surrender to the authorities—keeping the stand off to an end.

Arrested immediately, Cross faced 58 charges—later reduced to 46. After his marathon trial at Saginaw, near Uta, the 30 men and six women on the jury, all of them white, found him guilty of 28 charges that included dangerous use of a baseball bat, firearm offences, weapons possession, uttering death threats and—the most serious crime of all—aggravated assault, punishable by up to 14 years in prison. Cross was sentenced to three years. For months in a federal penitentiary, the several punishment units sent out to any of the participants at the Oka crisis. In sentencing Cross, Quebec Superior Court Justice Benjamin Gervais described the *Akwesasne* being Mohawks as "a true menace" and a person "unwilling to accept authority."

Since then, Cross's legal problems have become tangled. His appeal is based partly

on the grounds that Cross was tried in conjunction with another Mohawk, Gordon Laune, now-named Stierges. As a result, Cross decided not to take the stand to testify in his own defence because that testimony could have incriminated his co-defendant. Laune, 32, from the *Akwesasne* reserve near Cornwall, Ont., received a 33-month sentence on nine charges including aggravated assault and uttering threats. But Cross's prosecutors, meanwhile, are appeal-



Mohawk Warriors of Oka: testament to fierce native spirit

ing Cross's acquittal on the other 28 charges. Cross is also currently in the midst of another trial on charges of simple assault and participating in a riot arising from an incident at Kahnawake in May, 1991, on the eve of his marriage. And he acknowledges that he may be facing further problems for failing to live up to the conditions of his bail by reporting on a regular basis to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment at Delson, south of Montreal.

Meanwhile, as another action related to the Oka crisis, the Quebec Police Ethics Commission, under pressure from both

Amnesty International and the United States Embassy in Ottawa, is currently conducting an internal investigation into charges by Cross that at least six men assaulted by detectives, sexually and repeatedly, stood him in the 12 hours before his original arrest. The police will not comment on Cross's allegations while the matter is under investigation. But as Cross's lawyer, Montreal attorney Julia Pons, remarked, "The man's life has been upside down for the past three years."

In spite of the upheaval, Cross is still clear about the reasons that drove him to pick up a gun and join the armed Mohawks at Kahnawake. "I got mad," he said. "I saw all the police and all the guns and I decided that I was going to do something to stop my people from being pushed around."

Pleading to his collectively as an mistake, he confessed, "I guess I suddenly discovered that I was a Mohawk, just like my father before me and his father before him and all the other fathers before them." He pointed again before adding, more quietly, "It was something I'd forgotten, growing up in Brooklyn."

Cross is restrained by the stress of his bail from even venturing directly on his trail. While he awaits his appeal, which is likely to be heard in September, Cross divides his time between his numerous court appearances and caring for his strict son. His wife Nadine, a certified accountant, has become the family breadwinner. "My job is waiting back at Royal Dan [the Brooklyn branch of the union workers union], but I haven't been able to hold down a steady job because I'm always in court," Cross explained. He acknowledges that he has never regretted his role at Oka. "I think I may have made things hard for the Mohawk people."

But he also expresses a measure of satisfaction. "A lot more people are aware of our situation now—not to mention the fact we stopped that damned poll census." Above all, though, Cross is heartened by a rising sense of frustration. "Nothing really has changed," he complained. "They still have not settled matters at Kahnawake. There are still checkpoints all over Kahnawake. And the government continues to push us. As for me, I'm still stuck in here."

BARRY CAME in *Kahnawake*

a billionaire.

I buy people every day. It's naive to think it can't be done.



PEOPLE

ROLL OUT THE GRAMMY

He had been nominated four times before and had failed to capture the recording industry's most coveted prize. But this year, *acousticist* and banjoist Walter Orenik, 37, realized what he calls his "biggest goal in life" when his 25th Anniversary Album won the Grammy Award for



Outwork, realizing
his biggest goal



'Half punk,
half medieval'

In a postmodern Cinderella story, last summer, married French designer **Jean-Paul Gaultier**, who designs Madonna's costumes, was in Montreal when he discovered a model with a unique look. By October, **Eve Sedgwick**—whose shaved head opened a dragon for her—was on the Paris runway introducing Gaultier's collection. And even, after she appeared in the fall shows for the **Chanel**, **Karl Lagerfeld** and **Gambier** (Gaultier himself, the 31-year-old master of **Motown**, was the toast at Paris's fashion crowd. Sedgwick called her look as "fantastic," but not "hot," she told "I'm not at all as aggressive as people want to believe I am." So for a moment, not even his pen in her hand.

Schwarz not approved

Coming of age

Few her first feature-length movies in 1985. *Sandy Wilson* wrote and directed the *Globe Award*-winning *My American Cousin*, a gift's coming-of-age story set in 1950s New, the 45-year-old B-C actress is returning to a similar theme, directing an *episode of Ready or Not*. The 13-part series, which begins on Global TV on March 29, features two 11½-year-old girls entering puberty. "The show is touching some very serious issues," said Wilson. "This episode deals with the young girls' images of her bodies. That is something that women of all ages have been dealing with for a very long time."



Wilson's Sparrow Thrush: short, "bumped"

*The comfort
and the pain*

"Oh, what's in it for me?" Linda Del Grande began when asked about *What Are Families For?*, a new pilot that airs on CBC this week. "It's a half-hour, it's funny—with puns, but not so much puns that we'll all get bored." Del Grande has more

rience with TV came by: his popular series *Saving Things* ran from 1982 to 1987. Now, in *What Are Families For?*, Del Grande stars as a middle-aged white-collar worker suddenly unemployed in the lean, mean 1990s. Director Ted Katchoff shot the pilot in Halifax—close to Cape Breton, where Del

Def. Grande: 10 lot of warrants

A CALL FOR SOBRIETY

Arvin MacLean is taking drinking seriously. His best-selling non-book, *Crazywater: Notion Vices on Addiction and Recovery*, is a compilation of firsthand accounts of the devastating effects alcohol has had on Canadian society people—and the ways that those effects have been reversed. "We were traditionally a sober people. Let's return to that," said Ottawa-based MacLean, a columnist of the *Monksey Weekly* and a self-declared "pretty good teetotaler" until he quit drinking in 1993. MacLean articulated what there is "so quick, easy fix" to the problem of native alcoholism. But he is clearly determined to help first nations. "Bring our Indians should start if for something," he said, "and one of the things I think it should start off by is having education, not brood, of class drinking, 24 hours a day."



Grade: he left distance moving in 1991 from Toronto, his home since the late 1960s. "I just couldn't take the Toronto scene any more," said the 49-year-old actor. "It's too show-biz for me." He added that his new show "feels like a blanket—it's got a lot of warmth." Then, pausing, he said "The fear is that the blanket will become a hot object."

a husband.

a wife.

a billionaire.

a proposal.

robert redford

demi moore

woody harrelson

indecent proposal

[illegible]



Homeless aftermath (left): the Brown family; a devastating right hook that stretched across 8,000 miles to Canada

WORLD

A NIGHTMARE REVISITED

For Nelson and Charlene Brown, the storm was like the return of a terrifying nightmare. Already, the young south Florida couple had lost one home to the oncoming violence of nature. When Hurricane Andrew smashed across the state's southern tip last August, it destroyed the rented home in Perrine, south of Miami, where the couple lived with their three young children. By October this month, they still had not found a new home that they could afford. Instead, what weather forecasters again began warning Florida residents to prepare for high winds on March 12, the Browns' home was a 16-by-22-foot beige government-owned tent, one of 60 recently erected on church property in nearby Naranja to accommodate Andrew's

FOR THE SECOND TIME IN SEVEN MONTHS, FLORIDA IS CLEANING UP IN THE WAKE OF A LETHAL STORM

victims. But it proved to be no match for the winds in excess of 130 m.p.h. that last week's late winter storm smashed on eastern North America. After a night spent in a local school gymnasium, the couple returned to find that the tent had collapsed; their handful of remaining belongings, including a television set and most of their children's clothing, were soaked and soiled.

In a devastating right hook that stretched across 8,000 miles from the Caribbean to the North Atlantic, the more storm-delivered death and destruction to Cuba, the eastern seaboard of the United States and Canada. From southern Florida to the Atlantic provinces, high winds reckoned up to three feet of snow,



much of it falling on southern coastlines it dropped to zero. At its peak, the weather closed several interstate highways and ate up power to so many as three million homes. Thousands of families found themselves stranded because of closed highways, as airports as airways unshooked flights in Virginia a spring break notice seeing for 117 teenage boys and girls from a Detroit high school tossed into a tent for survival when heavy snow overtook the highway. All the members of that group turned their heads; others were not as lucky. By the time colds returned to the shores west of Canada, the storm had killed more than 200 people, from those who the 33 Chinese crew members of the 580-foot freighter Gold Reef Conveyor, which sank as a passenger ship off Nova Scotia. Ironically, the vessel was on its way from Florida with a load of grapes for Florida to be used in cake deposed for repairing homes damaged in last summer's hurricane. And even though the latest winds produced no more dramatic effects elsewhere, the devastation perhaps was most debilitating in the southern state. Among the nearly two dozen Florida counties declared disaster areas last week was Duval County, which took the brunt of Andrew's anger last August. When culture struck almost a year ago, thousands of residents were still struggling to rebuild. In Homestead, 45 km southeast of Miami, the family-owned Greenleaf Nursery had only recently received its regular shipments of tropical indoor plants to customers as far away as Nova Scotia when the winter storm crumpled a brand-new steel-framed loading dock. "It was barely a month old," sighed pet-owner Peter Wilson.

A few kilometers away, home-owner Gary Grubel had just begun repairing the roof of his three-bedroom house, heavily damaged by Andrew, when the latest storm dumped torrential rain on the area. So discouraged Grubel as he surveyed his damaged belongings. "We took more water last night than we did during the hurricane." At that, the Homestead man's comment was lazier than his one-room house: said Grubel. "The ceiling in their living room came down."

For other Floridians, last week's storm drastically hit "stone pillars" was an insurance reminder of last night's rain. That was County American John Bryant spent several frightened hours with his wife and two children, one of their friends and the family dog huddled inside a closet of the new house he bought earlier this year, in part with insurance money collected on his old home, which had been heavily damaged by Andrew. A handful of 50 recorded across the state, crushed

down close by—but spared Bryant's new house. "It blew away a few siding panels and it blew some shingles off," but did no other damage, Bryant said.

Also mostly undamaged were 156 small house trailers lined up to a former playing field just off U.S. Highway 1 south of Homestead. The trailers, purchased by the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency, house new families whose own dwellings, many with ailing roofs and walls, remain too damaged to occupy. For dozens of young members of both states who attend Pine Villa Elementary School just down the street, last week's wind and rain brought back frightening memories. "It scared me children to death," and non-principal Jeanne Lasky. They wanted to know if this is another hurricane, if it was coming back.

Lasky's modest two-story school, in fact, stands in sobering evidence of the lasting damage that nature can inflict. Although its doors reopened last October—after 96 Canadian Forces engineers and the 250-member crew of the 1961 Provincial cleanup crew had replaced the school's windows, walls and roof—more than a third of its 1,300 regular students have moved away since the hurricane. Splintered trees and a badly taxed road show further repairs are still needed.

Elsewhere across the broad expanse of shipwrecks, housing developments and flooded that stretches south from Miami, there was additional evidence of the lasting impact of nature's violence. More than six months after Andrew struck, dozens of coffee, guava and orange groves were still in ruins. And long piles of debris still lay many miles from the roadside. Local officials and construction contractors in Gainesville, anxious that it may take as long as five years for the state's economy to recover fully from the combined effects of both storms.

But in their County last week, and elsewhere across eastern North America, there was evidence as well of enduring optimism even in the face of unprecedented natural disaster. Near Pine Villa school, members of the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church re-erected the huge tent, blown down by the weather there, that had served in the emergency shelter since Andrew hit but demolished its whitewashed recovery church last August. Charlotte and Nelson Brown, meanwhile, shook off their latest misfortune with a combination of philosophy and pragmatism. "You've got to deal with what you've got," said Nelson. "Last time, Andrew/Charles was a right mess. It makes you want to give up. But you've just got to start all over again." For tens of thousands of weary storm victims, that was the only thing left to do as the wiles of what many were calling the Beast of the Century.

CHIEFS WOOD is in Houston

World Notes

YELTSIN'S GAMBLE
Arguing that "we have to put in and in the future," President Boris Yeltsin invited to his first cabinet reshuffle, pending the results of a national referendum on April 25. The referendum will ask Russians whether they want a new legislature to replace the Congress of People's Deputies, which is dominated by forces opposed to his first cabinet reshuffle. He promised to keep the military out of politics, not said that, until the vote, only his presidential decrees would be legal.

SPREADING THRU
A break from in Chicago left a street 46 dead, just five days after a series of explosions in Bombay killed more than 300 people and injured 1,100. Chicago police, who arrested two suspects with known connections to the Muslim underworld, ruled out Iraq because the explosion is the last case. Bombay police Chief Anand Singh Sharma said that two suspects arrested in that city's bombings were linked by a drug smuggler whose address was "Czechoslovak."

LEAVING THE BENCH
U.S. Supreme Court Justice Byron White, 75, announced that he will retire this summer after 31 years. The opening will see President Bill Clinton an opportunity to name a justice to the conservative-dominated, nine-member court.

CASTRO IN CONTROL
Cuba's National Assembly unanimously re-elected Fidel Castro to another five-year term as president of the Council of State. Castro, who led Cuba since the 1959 Communist revolution.

DEATH ESCALATION
Tensions heightened between Georgia and Russia. Georgia forces in the breakaway region of Abkhazia shot down a Russian military plane. Georgia has repeatedly claimed that Russian forces are aiding Abkhazian separatists, who have killed Georgian troops to retreat from much of the Black Sea region. Russia denies the charge.

WAR CRIMES
The first Serbian military to stand trial for war crimes in Bosnia, 32-year-old Borislav Vukobrat, confessed, long-standing charges by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia during the war that began almost a year ago. Vukobrat, who is charged with rape, murder and genocide, told a military court in Sarajevo that his commanders approved of, and sometimes ordered, the crimes.

The road to Corleone

Italians demand a crackdown on the Mafia

The road to Corleone winds up from the Mediterranean Sea through the jagged hills that guard the way to the rugged heart of Sicily. In the pale sun of late winter, a tall grip for Corleone—rising for a town that lives with an unenviable reputation as the home of the Mafia's most powerful and blood-thirsty clan. But Sicily is changing fast, and Corleone is no exception. At the symbolic centre of Mafia power, people are speaking out as never before. A grassroots petition against corruption has forced Corleone's mayor and his entire town council to resign. The four-page code of silence known as *omertà* which once protected Mafia from judges and police, has given way to a popular outcry. "There is renewed everywhere—and we are part of it," exclaims Don Palmirotto, a local priest, perched on a chair and writing anti-Mafia comments. "Corleone is having its own moral and cultural revolution."

The revolution sweeping the tiny town in the 1980s is reverberating throughout Sicily and the rest of Italy. Indignant citizens are demanding justice publicly where they once just turned away in the face of organised crime. Some 200 anti-Mafia laws have turned reform, making a mockery of the old rules of silence. Police armed with tough new anti-Mafia laws are seeking their greatest success against the mafia in disclosures—including attempts to lead the respected boss of Corleone's notorious crime family, Salvatore (Totò) Riina. And the wave of public outrage against corruption in Italy's traditional political parties is rubbing salt in the wounds of those once colluded with the Mafia. After living so long and so closely with the crime syndicate, Sicilians are rebelling. No class victory—and many question whether the apparent blows against the Mafia are as serious as the authorities claim. But for the first time, they say, the beginning of the end may be in sight. "It is a long, long fight," says Roberto Scarpinato, a prosecutor in the anti-Mafia capital, Palermo. "But this is truly the starting point."

The most visible symbol of Italy's break-through against the mob is the short, curly man whose trial in a special high security courtroom at Palermo's Court of Cassation continued last week. Prosecutors accused Riina of ordering or participating in more than

300 murders and maintaining the dominance of the Sicilian Mafia, or Cosa Nostra, over the world's multi-billion-dollar cocaine and heroin markets. Elsewhere his work, as coordinator for the first time began taking their ongoing investigation into political corruption to the organised crime groups of southern Italy. In the city of Reggio di Calabria, at the toe of the Italian boot, investigators accused 25 people of setting up a conspiracy of politicians, businessmen and traders at a Mafia-like club known as the "Ninaghetta," meaning the "beetle-stew" (see

Public outrage at mob violence has lifted the code of silence and triggered an ethical revolution

page 22). Many observers believe it may be just the first step in uncovering extensive links between organised crime and Italy's political establishment—potentially the most explosive revelation in a nation already reeling from scandal.

Corleone became a worldwide symbol of Mafia power when Mario Puzo traced its bloody history in his 1969 novel *The Godfather*. The Corleone he portrayed was a remote Mafia fortress where evil gangsters killed each other at the rate of one a week, "and it seemed that death shadowed the town." Some of that aura still remains, even people from Palermo just 50 km away on the coast, approach Corleone with trepidation. A tour of the town of 13,000 includes visits to the ancestral homes of such infamous Cosa Nostra leaders as the Riinas and the Bagarillas. The mobsters have long outgrown their home town, but their ties to it bring some benefits. Unlike most Sicilian towns, Corleone is almost free of petty crime, the Mafia ensure that no one suffers their bad luck. But these days Corleone is

the most Italian town seen between the old forces of corruption and emboldened reformers pressing for change. The Godfather image of Corleone is long out of date.

Even before the latest allegations against organised crime, a few anti-Mafia campaigners were active in the town. Palmirotto, a 41-year-old independent town councillor, started a monthly newspaper there, called *City Water* (New Class) in 1981, and called on local people to get rid of politicians with links to Cosa Nostra. "The world knows Corleone as a symbol of the Mafia," he says, "but I don't know we are like this because of the Mafia. If you can do it here, you can do it anywhere." Per years, Palmirotto had only a few fellow campaigners. That changed dramatically last summer when Mafia assassins shot Sicily's top two criminal judges, Giovanni Falcone and Paolo Borsellino, within eight weeks of each other. The killings shook society throughout Italy—and into Corleone. After Borsellino's murder on July 31, about 800 teachers and schoolchildren demonstrated in the town's streets, carrying placards. And in December, pupils at local schools staged an exhibit of posters and open letters calling on the Mafia to change their ways.

Riina's arrest in January was another blow to the Cosa Nostra's battered prestige. During a vicious war against Mafia leaders in 1980-1981, Riina's Corleone clan established its dominance over the Sicilian mob—finally achieving the kind of power that Puzo imagined in his novel. Riina eluded authorities for 22 years after fleeing from house arrest in 1969, but was captured on Jan. 15 by police, who snatched his car during Palermo's morning rush hour. The arrest of the legendary right-hand boss of all bosses, Corleone's mob-HQ, Godfather, was quickly followed by an unprecedented series among the town's mob. Two thousand of them signed a petition against corruption and Mafia influence signed by Palmirotto and other reformers. It criticised such an approach that the mayor and his council had rejected—fearing the con-



Mafia Salvatore Riina in Palermo: no honor

ground government to send in a temporary court to run the town. "Before there was silence," says Palmirotto. "Now we can't stop talking."

One man who has found it easy not to talk is Riina himself. In his court appearances, the 45-year-old, repaired Mafia chairman adopts the classic Cosa Nostra defiance: deny everything. He is, he has told his accusers, "just a poor farmer" all home work, family and church. "He does not even know what Cosa Nostra is, he is innocent, and the accused of statements who have attributed him as the head of the Mafia's so-called right hand, or ruling committee) do not know what they are talking about. Palmirotto's magistrates tell a very different story. Riina, they charge, is the most vicious Mafia leader in decades who earned his nickname, the Beast, by ordering the deaths of as many as 600 people. Among the most recent victims of his assassination, they say, were Italian judges and judges, the anti-Mafia judges whose serious actions turned them into Sicily's newest martyrs—heroes. Through out Palermo, their portraits are displayed on walls and hung in of Basil altars.

In Palermo, almost everyone has a theory about why Riina was finally arrested after almost a quarter of a century at liberty. During the anti-Mafia "mobster" of 1985-1987, Riina was convicted of murder in abundance, but continued to live in a spacious villa on the outskirts of Palermo and registered his children a birth—and his own name. Accused those involved in fighting Cosa Nostra, speculation and paranoia abounded. Riina may have decided to turn himself in because he is old and sick, say some people, others suggest he was betrayed by fellow mobsters still reeling at his downcast style. Still others maintain that the city bowed, weakly men staring out from behind bullet-proof glass in the Palermo courtroom still runs his own syndicate through his contacts on the outside. The struggle for control among Cosa Nostra clans that was predicted after his arrest has not taken place, at least so far. "I don't think there will be a war," says Palermo magistrate Agostino Lefante. "I think Riina is still the boss."

But if Riina is still the boss, he



is boss of a weakened organization that for the first time in half a century is under sustained attack from the police and courts. Italy's rural political crisis has weakened the old parties, especially the Christian Democrats, who were incidentally regarded as the Mafia's protectors in the south. Early last year, a Mafia hit man assassinated an Italian member of the European parliament, Salvatore Lanza, who Mafia informers claim was the link between Cosa Nostra and the high levels of Italy's political establishment. Lanza was killed, they say, because he could no longer guarantee protection for Mafiosi brought before the courts. Then, the murders of Falcone and DiManno forced the government to finally pass long-promised anti-Mafia laws that permit wider use of phone taps, seizure of the property of convicted persons and prosecution of protection for gang members who defect and testify against their former bosses. Italians call them *pizzini*, the repentant ones, and there are now 298 of them giving detailed evidence of Mafia activity.

Together, the points have given prosecutors a detailed portrait of the biggest crime syndicates: Sicily's Cosa Nostra, the Calabrian 'Ndrangheta and the 'Sicilian Mafia' of Calabria. In Sicily, informant networks have told how Riina imposed his personal dictatorship as an organization that once ran on semi-democratic laws with regional bosses controlling

Carnage at Falcone's death site, Riina (below): the repentant 'pizzini' claim to be just a poor farmer



their own territory. As the salient at the international drug market and profits from construction sectors grew ever larger, they say, the Calabrese took over all its traditional areas of violence. One prominent informant, Gaetano Maturo, told investigators that his loyalty to Cosa Nostra evaporated once Riina began removing the deaths of other Mafia members. "To stay inside Cosa Nostra all you had to do was know how to kill," said Maturo. "Riina has nothing to do with this Cosa Nostra, which is by now in the hands of men who want all the power of my group."

Cosa Nostra may be weakened, but these men deeply involved in fighting it have few likeminded that its power has been broken. While Italian experts talk about the Mafia, they refer not just to the strong-arm men of Cosa Nostra but to the intricate web of fear and power and political influence that they call "the third level." For them, Riina may be just the boss of the Mafia's military arm, its financial experts and political network remain largely intact. Roberto Scarpinato, the Palermo prosecutor, compares the Mafia to a state with its own leaders, hierarchy, laws and culture. "If you want to defeat a state," he says, "you don't just capture the leader. You have to defeat all its elements." For Scarpinato and his fellow prosecutors, fighting Cosa Nostra carries a heavy personal price. He is virtually a prisoner at his cramped Palermo apartment, with two soldiers guard-

ing the building's entrance and a third out side his own door. He goes everywhere with bodyguards, and during four years in Palermo has been out shopping just six times. "It's real," he says. "It's no way to live."

Scarpinato is far from the only Italian official forced to live under round-the-clock guard. Scores of prosecutors, politicians and judges involved in fighting organized crime endure similar conditions. Among them is Leonardo Orlando, a sometime mayor of Palermo who, in the mid-1980s, initiated a reformist movement in the city known as the "Palermo Spring," and has now taken his anti-Mafia crusade onto the national stage by founding a new party called La Rete (The Network). In its first electoral outing last April, La Rete won 15 seats in parliament and gave Orlando a platform to campaign against what he describes as a corrupt system in which political power has become inextricably linked to the crime syndicates. His crusade, too, carries a high price: after Falcone's murder last May, police told Orlando that the Mafia had issued an assassination order against him. His home now is a police barracks in Rome, and he

travels everywhere in a bulletproof car not touched by half a dozen machine-gun-toting guards. In Italy's colorful parliament Orlando is known as a "walking corpse."

Orlando attributes his rising party's success to what he calls the "collateral explosion" now engulfing Italy. In the north, investigations are uncovering extensive political corruption as the so-called Ciriaco De Mita inquiry, in the north, prosecution are attacking the Mafia with more success than ever before. La Rete struggles to bring the two movements together—winning support both in Sicily and around Milan, focus of the corrupting scandals. Orlando plots no punches but publicly accuses top Christian Democratic politicians like 78-year-old Giulio Andreotti, Italy's pre-

sident no fewer than seven times, of colluding with Cosa Nostra. "The links between the Mafia and the political powers are being uncovered," he says. "It shows we are really something like a banana republic."

Those links are far from proven. Many Italians maintain that the investigation of the Mafia will come when anti-corruption investigators take their inquiries south into the heartland of organized crime. Eventually, they predict, high-level informants will provide hard evidence of what many Italians already believe: that those leaders colluded with the mafia and that the Mafia has penetrated deeply into the state structure. "The climate has changed," says Orlando. "Police and judges now know they can look into things they could not touch before." What they did may yet shock an Italian public that has become accustomed to scandal—everywhere from leading Milan to tiny Corleone.

ANDREW PHILLIPS in Corleone



Ferraro: 'one way of keeping his memory alive'

ing for opportunities elsewhere," she says. "It's honest."

Casella, Ferraro insists, could be doing more to help her country defeat the Mafia. In an interview with Merleth, she maintained that Casella's legal battles with Italy are inadequate to fight organized crime. In particular, she said, the extradition treaty between the two countries that went into effect in 1985 makes it difficult for Italian authorities to obtain over 500 documents needed to prosecute back to Italy for trial. "We need better cooperation," she said. Ferraro's deputy, Giovanni Sica, went further. He said that Italy has not made any extradition requests to enable her to join her "brother" in the system doesn't work. "Unless the treaty is

renewed, maintained Sica, "Casella could become a kind of bridge, a shelter for wanted criminals."

In fact, say Canadian officials, there are no cases where Italian authorities have been unable to extradite organized crime figures from Canada to face trial in Italy. Instead, the problem lies in differences between Italy's civil law and Canada's common law system. Canada requires more stringent evidence in extradition cases than do most European Community nations, including Italy. In Western Europe, courts in one country extradite wanted criminals on the basis of warrants issued in another. But Canada requires a country seeking extradition to also produce evidence acceptable to a Canadian court—something that Italian prosecutors sometimes find difficult to do. Canadian officials say that they have been prepared since last May to make changes in the extradition treaty to smooth the procedure. A delegation went to Rome to negotiate the changes, but the men they met in Rome, Ferraro, was assassinated the day after their arrival. Since then, the upheavals in Italy's political system have prevented another meeting. Still, says Ferraro, Italy continues to want changes. "It's important the two—and for us as well."

A. P. in Rome



MacKenzie: higher corporate, sales and fuel taxes are intended to reduce debt and stimulate Saskatchewan's deficit.

BUSINESS

THE DEBT BEATS

EVERY YEAR, as winter turns and spring approaches, they fly north to Canada. Unlike their feathered counterparts, however, this migrating flock is armed with calculators, computer-aided taxides and sharp pencils. They are the credit-rating agencies from major New York City debt-rating agencies, including Moody's Investors Services Ltd. and Standard and Poor's Corp., which descend upon Canada in the winters to review their traditional spring budgets and economic forecasts. The assessment of the rating teams, which pour over budget documents and conduct in-depth interviews with senior government officials, will determine how much the provinces can borrow in public-debt markets over the upcoming year and, most importantly, what interest they will have to pay to creditors. Over the past two years, aggressive provincial debt has soared to over \$24 billion, but rising governments will have to borrow even more in the coming fiscal year, that fact, according to ratings, may prove to be a difficult task. Said Yves Lemay, assistant vice-president of Canadian ratings at

NEW PROVINCIAL BUDGETS REFLECT A CONCERN ABOUT HIGH DEBT LOADS AND THREATS OF CREDIT CUTS

Moody's. "Current provincial deficits in Canada are already at the point where they are not sustainable any longer."

That warning note, which a growing number of economists and business leaders have also sounded, is not going unheeded. On March 15, the governments of Saskatchewan and Newfoundland laid out plans to address their burgeoning deficits with stringent new budgets. Jeanne MacKenzie, the treasurer of Saskatchewan, which has the highest per-capita

debt of all provinces, announced higher corporate, sales and fuel taxes. In Newfoundland, which has debt of about \$6 billion, or one-half of its total provincial output, Treasurer Pauline Boney announced a wage and benefits cuts of \$70 million from government employees. These moves are expressions of approval from credit rating agencies as well as Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, whose government will release a new federal budget on April 15. New Brunswick Premier Frank McKenna also welcomed the move. "I believe as my heart that all other provinces will embrace the courage necessary to bring in budgets that will, once and for all, get Canada back on a path of sanity."

Just two days earlier, MacKenzie had announced plans to restructure New Brunswick's public-service segment to reduce its debt of more than \$4 billion. A day later, reports emerged that Ontario was contemplating the layoff of up to 18,000 provincial government employees. Both provinces are seeking deficits that are significantly larger than last year's forecasts and both are preparing the ground for major budget cuts to be announced over the next several weeks. Said Sherry

Cooper, chief economist with investment dealer Bentson Piv Ltd. in Toronto. "New York credit ratings are now setting provincial fiscal policy in Canada. It may seem unfortunate, but it's working very well so far."

The increasingly dire financial condition of the provinces is the result of an unhappy convergence of events. While the economic recovery has reduced government tax revenues, it has placed significant new demands on the social assistance and support programs that fell under provincial jurisdiction. At the same time, Ontario's bid to reduce its \$14.6-billion debt has steadily reduced interest transfer payments to the provinces since 1982. But for the fiscally weaker provinces, including Saskatchewan and Newfoundland, those federal cash infusions still account for as much as 45 per cent of their 1994 revenue base.

The provincial dependence on federal funding and the gravity of their financial situation have made governments in the United States and Canada. Donald Macdonald, assistant minister of Ontario, would provide an estimate of \$200 million "voluntary" payment to be directed to Ontario, Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island. Ontario, which is forecasting a budget deficit of more than \$12 billion this year, will receive \$200 million, with Saskatchewan getting \$30 million and Prince Edward Island \$4 million. The stabilization program allows Ontario to make cash payments to loans to provinces with declining annual revenues. The amounts directed to the three provinces are an advance on their claims under the stabilization program for the 1991-1992 fiscal year.

Said, the federal government's overall commitment from the annual transfer of about \$40 billion to the provinces has increasingly forced them to turn to volatile international bond markets. At the end of November, 1993, Japanese investors alone owned more than \$50 billion worth of Canadian bonds or about 25 per cent of all long-term Canadian bonds. In a recent economic round table discussion organized by the Toronto-based C.D. Howe Institute, a nonpartisan economic policy think-tank, Warren Justin, chief economist at the Bank of

New Scotia, noted that "non-national investors increasingly call them" because of such high levels of foreign borrowing.

That high foreign debt level makes Canada especially vulnerable because the country is increasingly reliant on outsiders' perceptions of Canada as well as developments in other countries. If they turn against Canadian debt, their actions can directly affect domestic currency and interest rates. Foreign debt cannot be swapped away. Foreign debt cannot be swapped away and provincial debt of over \$600 billion. Robert Nault, chief economist of the Montreal-based Royal Bank of Canada, told the C.D. Howe group. "This is very clear to us: it is not negotiable that we can continue doing what we're doing and maintain control over our exchange rate and economy."

For his part, Brian Dwyer, an economist with Foreign Securities Ltd. in New York, said that Japanese investors have become "increasingly cautious and risk-averse" with international investments. Indeed, all foreign investors developed a heightened awareness of the continuous political dramas within Canada during the constitutional referendum debate last fall—a issue that has resurfaced on their minds. Now, they are conducting a federal election, which may jeopardize many fundamental economic policies including free trade and debt reduction. As well, investors in both Japan and Germany are increasingly concerned about their own domestic economic problems brought about by an emerging recession.

Until recently, Canadian politicians at provincial levels have been reluctant to directly address the problem of public debt, but now, tough measures lie ahead. According to political analysts, that is because, until recently, many Canadian taxpayers had a limited sense of the country's debt burden and its dire consequences for long-term economic competitiveness and future economic growth. Several polls, however, have shown an increased awareness of the problem. Said C.D. Howe economist Bruce Lip. "Canadians don't realize that they are like people who live off their credit

Business Notes

SOUTHWEST'S NEW PARTNER

Montreal-based holding company Power Corp. of Canada will buy a \$180-million stake in Southern Inc. Southern president William Arlind said that the company, which will raise \$2.8 million over a period of \$4.4 million to Power, will turn the company to themselves in balance sheet. After the deal is completed, Power, which already has credit holdings in Quebec, including Montreal's Le Press, will own almost 20 per cent of Southern. That will give it voting parity with Const. Black's Montreal Inc., which recently acquired a \$200-million stake in Southern.

INDIGENES FOR RECOVERY

Canada's battered manufacturing sector received a boost with the announcement of two deals worth nearly \$1.45 billion, which will generate 6,500 jobs for several years. Chrysler Canada said that it will spend \$600-million to upgrade its main plant in Windsor, Ont., to begin producing a new generation of the vehicle in mid-1995. Also last week, the General Motors fleet division in London, Ont., said that it has signed a \$445-million contract to build 136 locomotives for TransCanada Inc. in Northern Redland.

BEER WARS

Miller Brewing Co. and Pabst Brewing Co. launched an antitrust lawsuit in San Antonio, Tex., to try to stop Milwaukee-based Miller Brewing Co. from buying 26 per cent of Molson Breweries. The lawyer opposing the proposed deal, which would transfer Molson's U.S. distribution and so Miller, said that it will reduce competition in the U.S. beer business. Officials with Miller and Molson said the drama were groundless.

A WELCOME REDUCTION

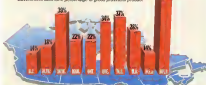
Germany's central bank lowered its discount rate to 7.5 per cent from eight per cent. Other European countries had blamed high German interest rates for the uncertainty in the European monetary system. In Canada, the bank rate fell for the seventh consecutive week, to 5.50 per cent from 5.66 per cent.

FINING THE COOP

Three members of Montreal-based Naturopathic Association, saying that president Robert Oudea had stolen information from them to help the charter's share of debt problems. One of the three, David Yves Darnaud, said that they had wanted only a new conference that Naturopathic's debt has risen to \$60 million. Oudea ended the three-day deal.

AWASH IN RED INK

Government debt as a percentage of gross provincial product



SOURCE: CANADIAN BUDGET REVISIONS BY CANADA

A costly coupling

The Royal Bank and Royal Trust tie the knot

It was a marriage made on Bay Street. Both the senior, Royal Bank of Canada chairman Peter Taylor, and the financial reporter that he had courted for two months, Royal Trust Ltd. chief executive James Miller, were grey suits. They appeared at a hastily called news conference last week to announce that the banks will pay \$5.6 billion to buy most of the beleaguered Royal Trust's operations, including its 148 Royal Trust branches across Canada. The writing for the media reception was bleak: a senseless business authoritarianism between the Royal Bank's Toronto headquarters. Present with their photographers and cameras were about three dozen reporters, who dined on dry toast and captured snapshots and typed statements and called Royal Trust chairman Richard MacDougall and Royal Bank president John Cleghorn positive Taylor and Miller at the hotel table. But despite the dark surroundings, Taylor and Miller were as glibly as two leaders in their 60s can be after finally consummating a long-awaited deal between Canada's largest bank and second-largest trust company. "We are excited about the opportunity of helping the senior Royal Trust with its own," said Taylor. Added Miller: "We're pleased to be joining the Royal Bank."

But the journalists could not dispute the fact that senior financial difficulties pushed Royal Trust into the deal. Later this day, the company released pre-bankruptcy financial statements that showed that it lost a staggering \$550 million last year, compared with a profit of \$137 million in 1990. Those losses are the legacy of the company's aggressive expansion into U.S. and British Columbia real estate markets in the late 1980s. Royal Trust's troubles have been compounded by problems at Peter and Edward Bonin's debt and equity-fund group of investment companies, which collapsed Royal Trust. As a result, the bank was highly favorable terms, agreeing to buy Royal Trust's venerable Canadian operating subsidiary, Royal Trust, and its U.S. and European operating subsidiaries Royal Trustco in left with a \$4-billion portfolio of Canadian U.S. and British assets that it will have to try to collect under a new, as-yet-unfunded corporate name.

Regardless of the financial details, last week's deal drove away at least some of the dark clouds hanging over the heads of Royal Trust's 3,500 employees. Taylor and Miller Taylor and Miller, two of the main attractions of Royal Trust for the bank are its "valued

and respected name," which dates back to 1882, and the "very high culture of Royal Trust staff." But he focused almost of making out layoffs or branch closures in the coming months. The bank plans to maintain the Royal Trust name for its traditional trust operations, the management of wills and estates. However, it will likely merge other parts of business, including Royal Trust's mutual funds division, with similar departments of its own. Said Taylor: "As we go forward, we will be looking for ways to be more productive." Some financial analysts were more direct, predicting that cutbacks are inevitable. "There is a lot of overlap in the branch networks," said Alan Teichman, an analyst with the Toronto-based brokerage firm Melnick McCarthy Inc. "There will be rationalization."

Still, after the turmoil that Royal Trust employees have experienced recently, the announcement of the sale was greeted with relief. Most at the company has declined over the past year following several heavy quarterly losses. It hit a new low in November at its Royal Trust's then-chief executive, Michael Camilleri, broadcast a pair of letters to a meeting with employees, pleading for a complete story that appeared with the headline "Royal Trust." On Dec. 4,



Taylor: "We are excited"

shortly after that incident, Camilleri stepped down in favor of Miller. The following week, Miller announced that Royal Trust would accept a cash infusion from an outside investor to revive the company.

Since then, several potential buyers have

poised over every aspect of Royal Trust's operations, asking to see the employees' uncertainty. Earlier this month, the company-based head office staff in an outing at a bowling alley in suburban Toronto in an effort to relieve tension. In the days leading up to the deal, Miller and that senior employees worked almost around the clock. He added that Royal Trust's board finally approved the deal at 2:30 a.m. on Nov. 19, the day of the announcement.

Although clearly less certain than Miller, executives and other senior officials in the Home-Edgar group also said that they were relieved that Royal Trust's future now appears to have been resolved. Said George Myhal, president of Trizon Financial Corp., which owns 41 per cent of Royal Trust: "I don't know if Royal Trust was ever in a drama, but it certainly has a cloud of uncertainty over it."

Royal Trust's other shareholders and debenture holders, as well as federal and provincial regulators, must also approve the transaction, a process that will likely take several months. If the completed deal closes as planned, however, neither Taylor nor any of the holding companies above it in the Home-Edgar group will receive any of the \$5.6 billion in proceeds from the sale. As part of the deal, Royal Trust agreed to eliminate all dividends on its preferred and common shares. Royal Trust will also pay an undisclosed portion of the \$5.6 billion back to the bank to repurchase shares Royal Trust's portfolio that the bank does not want.

Indeed, soon after the deal was announced, some financial analysts said that the bank had forced Royal Trust to sell off its most prized assets, but retain \$4.3 billion in problem loans. Many of them stem from Camilleri's aggressive expansion into commercial real estate and into the United States and Britain in the 1980s. Miller, for one, said that three-quarters of those loans are still in banking process, "performing," meaning that the borrowers are keeping up their payments.

Senator Trevor Fryton, the chairman of Province Ltd., one of the credit holding companies in the Home-Edgar group, also dismissed suggestions that Royal Trust or Home-Edgar had been backed into a corner. Royal Trust's attempt to find a buyer for all, not just parts, of Royal Trust, "wasn't something that was ac-



Miller (left), MacDougall: financial difficulties pushed their company to the altar

ing to ignore." But he added that the loans that the company has retained, "for the most part, are good assets." Taylor also said that as Royal Trust cultivates those loans under a new corporate name, it will use the money to redeem preferred shares and debentures. He added that the company will "divest as much as it is able to in its business."

At the same time, Taylor launched some persistent speculation that losses and the rest at the Home-Edgar group are "just

part of the group's total assets. He added that it will have plenty of sources of steady revenues, including resources from Noranda Inc. and London Life Insurance Co. "We do need to sell assets," Taylor said. "We had problems and we've addressed them, we have solved, substantially."

Taylor also said that analysts who now blame Camilleri and other Royal Trust managers for misguided decisions in the 1980s are being too simplistic. "There are a

lot of bodies around Canada and everywhere around the world," he said. "We believe that we were slightly scratched and now we're going forward."

In fact, Royal Trust is only the latest in a series of major Canadian in the troubled Canadian trust company industry, which banks and insurance companies are steadily swallowing. The sale of Royal Trustco leaves Canada Trust and National Trust as the last two major independently owned trust companies in Canada. Like the cases of Central Guaranty Trust and Standard Trust, which larger institutions bought last year, Royal Trust's problems arose from the collapse of the value of commercial real estate loans it made over the height of the market in the late 1980s.

But John Bross, for one, president of the Ottawa-based Trust Companies Association of Canada, argues that Ottawa's staggered deregulation of the financial-services sector in the 1980s hastened the demise of Royal Trust and many other trust companies. In essence, Ottawa allowed the banks to compete with trust companies for residential mortgages, but maintained the requirement that banks invest 75 per cent of their loan assets in real estate. That, he said, pushed Royal Trustco and others into more speculative lending.

Now, Bross says that he fears that the banks' and insurance companies' growing dominance of the financial-services sector will crush trust companies. "The Big Six have never been lenient for their interest in introducing innovative products and cutting for the consumer," Bross said. He added that trust companies, not banks, were the first to introduce diversified savings accounts, extended advice hours and pre-approved home mortgages.

The bankers and insurance companies say that those fears are exaggerated. Taylor, for one, said that even after buying Royal Trust, the Royal Bank will only have 14 per cent of all

Canadian financial institutions. Even some trust company executives expressed agreement. Norrie Laha, who served as chairman of Canada Trust in 1989, argued that there will still be aggressive competition in a financial services industry dominated by the Big Six banks. Said Laha: "As far as I know, there are still only four corners at most trust attention."

Whatever the impact on consumers, one thing banks and trust companies are unlikely to agree on is that the end of weekly and daily financial coverage can displace the trust sector in getting stories.

JOHN DAVIS

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Negotiators Yerosu (left), Blasco and Wooten: once again behind closed doors

Trading places

Washington reopens the free trade deal

Just seven months ago the scene of relief was palpable. After weeks of intense closed-door negotiations last August, the three trade ministers, sitting broadly, emerged with the final draft of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in hand. Against a wall of cameras and reporters, the three ministers (James Baker, Carlos Salazar and Carlos Salazar) signed the document, and the building of a continuous U.S. presidential election campaign in Canada, Mexico and the United States had finally ended to join the world's largest free trade bloc. But last week in Washington, an eerily familiar scene was replayed. Senior trade negotiators—John Wooten from Canada, Hermine Blasco from Mexico and a newcomer, James Yerosu from the United States—gathered in Washington to discuss changes to the deal. After dodging a handful of questions from journalists and posing briefly for photographers, they once again retreated behind closed doors to search for common ground.

On the negotiating table are three associated deals, which nearly elected U.S. President Bill Clinton insists are inseparable before he submits any NAFTA legislation to Congress for the required approval. And he reportedly promised during his election campaign, Clinton is seeking new terms to protect the environment, strengthen Mexican labor standards and protect the U.S. market from the threat of import surges. Although the translation of senior state policy may be an awkward one, senior political participants

in the talks say that the side deals will be negotiated by June. At the end of two days of meetings last week, however, the prospect of a final agreement seemed very far away. "It was a good constructive first meeting," said U.S. Deputy Trade Negotiator Yerosu. "This was a conceptual discussion. We deliberately sought out to have a detailed exchange of ideas."

For the proponents of NAFTA, the vague tone adopted by the U.S. trade team is understandable, they say. They fear that Clinton's preoccupation with his economic strategy and renewal of the U.S. health care system may further delay the deal, originally scheduled to be implemented in Jan. 1, 1994. As well, the free trade initiative is under a U.S. political shadow because it was a pet policy of former President George Bush and his Republican allies. "In the end, the NAFTA is not as important to Bill Clinton as it was to George Bush," said Jeffrey Faux, president of the Washington-based Economic Policy Institute. Added one congressional official, who speaks on the condition of anonymity: "Clinton does not want to write his political capital on NAFTA when he is trying to win support for tough budget proposals." While opposing the draft is formally in Mexico, in Canada it must go before Parliament, which is expected to pass it after a brief delay.

The extent of political support in Washington for the NAFTA deal is difficult

to gauge, because, as in Canada, its detractors are more vocal and better organized than its supporters. Last week four representatives from the liberal New Democratic Party were in Washington to press up support for their anti-free trade position. Said NDP MP and the party's trade critic David Bisset: "Mexico is a haven of irresponsibility in terms of labor rights and environmental rights." In private meetings with lobbyists and members of Congress, he also outlined the economic issues which he claims that Canada has suffered since the introduction of all trade with the United States in 1989.

Bisset's fears about NAFTA are echoed among U.S. elected officials. Said Michigan Democratic Senator Donald Riegle: "I think our main export to Mexico is likely to be jobs, not products." U.S. Representative Marsha Kanner (D-Ohio): "It's a treaty that's a trap."

Still, most U.S. politicians say that they are receiving proposals, as NAFTA says they see the terms negotiated for the side deals. Last week, it appeared that U.S. concerns about import surges would be the easiest to deal with because of clauses already in the existing trade text. Both the environmental and labor issues, however, are more complicated because they involve cross-border enforcement and raise some new questions about national sovereignty. This is a tough issue for Canada and the Mexicans, who have frequently complained about U.S. encroachment on their domestic sphere. Said Yerosu: "I am not looking for an agreement with limits, but certainly for one that has teeth."

U.S. environmental lobby groups say that they are encouraged by the reopening of the NAFTA talks. Still, Peter Aronson, senior economist with the New York City-based Environmental Defense Fund, cautions, "There are some serious environmentalist reasons why I feel that you can solve every problem by looking it in the trade agreement and that is very unrealistic." The anti-NAFTA sentiment harbored by several U.S. labor leaders, however, is more blunt. Said labor spokesman John O'Brien: "I can already hear the jobs being flown to Mexico and we have to provide some protection for the factory workers in the United States who'll be the biggest losers." And with federal elections near, looking in Canada and Mexico, this may not be the last time that NAFTA is renegotiated.

HILARY HACHENBERG is Washington and DOMINIC MANDLER in Toronto



The gospel according to Paul Martin Jr.

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

While the ears and eyes of the nation are glued to Kim Campbell's every pronouncement and gesture, Paul Martin Jr., the prime minister, is quietly working the Liberal party's lines of a new Canada.

Whether or not Martin's ideas are ever translated into action is not important to their source and substance. His concepts have the double advantage of being both practical and stimulating. Along with party research director Charles Holm, a former Ontario cabinet minister, Martin has honed his own set of three of the country's most burning dilemmas and come up with sensible options. "Any new government," he told me during a recent interview, "will be facing two constraints: that this country is bankrupt and that the nation state we have known and loved has evolved into a new kind of entity which has suffered a substantial loss of traditional sovereignty." Enlightened Martin, who once was a senior advisor with Prime Minister's Power Corp. in Montreal and later took over the presidency and majority ownership of Canada Shipbuilding Lines Inc. before entering politics in 1986.

"Central government's loss as Canada's hegemon has not led to the best global problem," says Yerosu, who is largely dismissive to deal with problems of local concern. So the challenge is to redefine the role of the central government as an institution that can do a limited number of things well, instead of everything to pretend it can do everything for everybody."

For Martin, the most urgent priority is socializing the cultural shift required to modernize Canada as a nation. He says the goal is that this country has been caught for a couple of decades. "The real problem started in 1973 during the OPEC crisis when Pierre Trudeau tried to isolate us by claiming we could stand alone ourselves and operate on oil prices lower than the rest of the world." Martin claims: "From then on, we stopped ordering

The challenge is to redefine the role of the central government as an institution that can do a limited number of things well

When Brian Mulroney took over, he had a tremendous mandate at just the right time, but didn't understand what he was supposed to do. He did the time he did, during his second term, he had his first crisis year and it was too late. You can't break change into a country without leading the cultural shift that would make it acceptable."

Martin says that cultural shift being triggered by the creation of an innovative economy which is not only a regular cash machine but also a provider for industrial research and development. "Our view is that the research budget has been too small," he says. "It would go down a subsidy, because we can't do it. We don't know how to put it in, it's not a market." It's likely, he believes, that Ottawa get out of regional economic program and stop handing out grants to industry. He wants to use the savings to increase federal research expenditures, but with an important proviso: "We would have R and D units only in areas where Canada has a competitive advantage, because there's just not any way to do something that's out of the world." He contrasts: "I believe that a quarter of federal funds should go into innovative technologies flowing out of all

those areas that have to do with natural resources, because we've got a competitive edge there. Another 25 per cent should go into medical research and the other 30 per cent into whatever areas capture markets decide, whether it's cold water swimming or sales of the remarkable substance research being carried out in Rio de Janeiro."

Martin can visualize doubling Ottawa's current research budget, which he says totals between \$5 billion and \$6 billion annually, over the next decade. University labs and other research institutions would compete for these funds, and private sector companies would have access to the results if they had invested matching amounts at the beginning of the research project. Martin cautions that Canada's industry might have trouble doing the work on its own, but he believes that it could undertake joint ventures with foreign multinationals.

On the very issue of OPEC reduction, Martin's formula is a lot less aggressive. He supports Canada's automatic advocacy of doing away with the OTC—only to have replaced by another tax producing precisely the same painful consequences. Martin is convinced that huge amounts of public sector expenditures could be saved by reorganizing the three levels of government to eliminate duplication. That's one concept that has been discussed a way of forcing any level of Canadian government to give up a silver of jurisdiction without the cost of doing so. He also mentions negotiations involved in the 10th March Lake and Chertowen accords. And only a transparently overvalued position, but he says that would be a good deal to make.

One of Martin's most intriguing policy ideas is that if the Liberals lose the government, they will take on the banks. "They've been granted tremendous benefits from their monopoly position," he says, "and they're not going to give up their money." Declared Martin: "I would tell them, if you don't begin to remove your quinquennial in a responsible way, we'll remove the restrictions on foreign banks operating here and make them perfectly subject to the law. The Bank of Canada would start issuing money, putting out some risk capital into small and medium-sized businesses instead of pouring most of their credit into real estate boomtowns." Martin also intends that once the banks are subject to the law, they should stop producing or services, they should stick with them in export markets, instead of leaving them growing for credit from the Canadian board.

Martin is obviously leading the country to drive up support for his party and his leader. But he is not alone in the policy options. He advocates will help end Bill Clinton's success and successor, should an opening be created that will be the moment his father's prediction could come true. Just before he died in September 1992, Paul Martin Sr., who had given his son the job of a private family physician, told him on the way of a private family physician: "I was the father of Canada's social revolution; you will create the country's economic revolution." It could still happen.

A League Of Their Own

As she laces in with an expected one billion other viewers on the 66th annual Academy Awards ceremony on March 26, *Academy Women* will have an ideal opportunity to ponder Hollywood's ambivalent attitude towards women. This year, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, whose 5,000 members decide the Oscar winners, has chosen "A Celebration of the Women and the Movies" as the theme of its awards show. It has also nominated *Howard's End*, based on E. M. Forster's novel about turn-of-the-century England—and one of the few dramas of 1992 with a substantial cast of female characters—in best picture. "Triplets," senior vice president of production at Edward R. Royapuram. This in Los Angeles, had acquired the rights to *Howard's End* while at Summit Goldeneye Co. in 1989. But a superior there vetoed her decision—and turned the rights over to New York City-based Merchant Ivory Productions, whose \$40-million adaptation has to far grossed \$75 million. "A male executive above me said, 'I don't want to make this movie,'" recalled Triplets. "He said it was too risk, too sensitive. He said it would never sell."

Triplets's experience, says women in the industry world, is typical of the way in which men dominate Hollywood. And they contend that the academy's decision to honor women at this year's Oscars is particularly satirical. Among the most high-profile women's roles in the past year, they note, were Sharon Stone's bisexual psychiatrist in *Basic Instinct*, Rebecca De Mornay's damaged money as *The Hand That Rocks the Cradle*, Jennifer Jason Leigh's roommate-turned-bell in *Single White Female*, and Michelle Pfeiffer's litigious lawyer in *Silence of the Lambs*. And Harriet Swenson, executive director of the Los Angeles-based lobby group Women in Film. "It was not nearly the kind of year we would point to with pride and say, 'Women—and just the images of women—have been at the forefront.'"

Selecting for credit moments for the best actress Oscar appeared to involve a just effort on the part of film-makers to release their stories earlier than originally scheduled, and aside my creditors to cut a wide net. *Love Field* about a 1992 housewife in the American South who drives to Washington for President John F. Kennedy's funeral, was released for two weeks in December—two months before its official opening—in an upsurge, and successful, but to win Pfeiffer a spot in a narrow field of potential nominees. Similarly, the producers at *Passion Fish*, about a soap opera star's struggle with parenthood, said with her

As Oscar celebrates women, Hollywood remains a man's world

troubled nurse, moved up that film's New York opening to December—one month before its nationwide release—and won Mary McDonnell a similar berth.

The academy, meanwhile, reached to Europe for two other nominees, giving the nod to England's Tanya Thompson, currently the odds-on favorite, in *Howard's End*, and to France's Catherine Deneuve, in *Indochine*, a drama set in French Indochina in 1950. Only Susan Sarandon, who delivered a fierce portrayal of a mother obsessed with her aging son in *Love's Labor's Lost*, who is notoriously selective about the parts that she will play, is a classic Oscar candidate.

For the best supporting actress award, the academy looked abroad for four of the five nominees. The contenders include three English women—Joan Plowright (*Wicked Aunt*), Tanya Rodriguez (*Howard's End*) and Miranda Richardson (*Damage*)—as well as Australian Judy Davis (*Masked and Worn*) and American Maria Yovanovitch (*My Cousin Vinny*). So far, got was the Hollywood line-up that actress Shirley MacLaine suggested that the film pickings may have influenced the academy's choice of those for this year's Oscars. "They're acting out of guilt," she said, "because there's not enough parts for women."

Whatever the academy's motivations, its decision has gratified women across the industry to reflect on the reasons why, in one of the most visible of all fields, strong, talented women have all but disappeared. Actresses including Barbara Stanwyck, Bette Davis and Katharine Hepburn wielded as much power in Hollywood as their male counterparts in the 1930s and 1940s—and were known for playing strong and vital characters who often had the upper hand on their male leads. Although in the 1960s and 1970s there were several notable, often lead, roles for such women as Jane Fonda, Faye Dunaway and Barbra Streisand, by the 1980s female characters were nearly eclipsed by Sarandon and her testosterone-driven successors. And while Stanwyck was among the highest paid performers of her era, even now current film risk takers as Julia Roberts scarcely earn about half as much as their male counterparts.

Howard's End Behind the scenes, meanwhile, the situation is equally bleak. Women write less than one-quarter of all the screenplays Hollywood produces—up only slightly from 10 years ago. And according to the Directors Guild of America, women directed only eight per cent of all Hollywood films in 1991. At the very top of major studio women are almost non-existent. One exception



(Clockwise from left) Sarandon, Pfeiffer, McDonnell, Thompson: strong, female characters have all but disappeared from the big screen

is Stacy Lascaris, chairman of Paramount Motion Pictures. The situation is somewhat better in U.S. TV, where a handful of women have created some of the big TV's recent hits (page 40). And in Canada, while the film and TV industries hope to be more equitable to women, the numbers for key creative positions are still low (page 42).

For many women, their career goal in the industry is particularly surprising: because the barriers are not official. "The problem is very invisible," said writer-director Fajer, who wrote a best screenplay Oscar nomination for *Jumpin' Jack Flash* (1986), about actors living the life. "It's not about anyone saying, 'You can't have the job because you're a woman,'" added Foster, 47. "But when I look around at men at my level, and they say they want to direct a movie, they get behind me. That's not happening to women."

The result, many contend, is a disproportionate number of backstage assistant jobs that are heavy on errands and menial tasks. Although women account for almost half of movie ticket sales, there are still relatively few films built around female characters or their struggles, their ruminations, and, in the case of women like the recent hit *The Bodysguard*, starring Whitney Houston over their weaknesses. "It's a catch-22," said Sara Butler, chairman of New Line Productions, during an interview in her sun-drenched office in downtown Beverly Hills. "Everyone expects to the lowest possible denominator and then they say, 'Well, it's the lowest common denominator that comes to use movies.'"

Unhappy? The problem is compounded by the escalating budgets that require, not to mention demand. Last year, the average price of a Hollywood production was \$36 million, up by about 30 per cent from 1990. Those high costs put studios under increasing pressure to make movies that will sell around the world. England's Joan Ryan, a vice-president of the William Morris Agency whose clients have included Meryl Streep and Madonna, "usually collaborates with a guy in order to sell in the Division where market that a complex, wonderful American comedy."

The flip side to that caution is the steady stream of low-budget, unglamorous characters that Hollywood seems to love. "The women and more beautiful the women, the more dangerous the movie," said Foster. She said that pattern is even's greatest anxiety about the growing power of women in recent decades. "What you're seeing," she said, "is very primitive fears expressed in these films." Directed director Nancy Kelly, whose 1991 film, *Thousand Pieces of Gold*, tells the story of a Chinese woman brought in a prostitute to the United States during the Gold Rush. "Dating women is sometimes more complicated than dating men."

A growing number of men, too, maintain that women still suffer most from the outdated nature of many Hollywood roles. Robert Benham, president of Cannon Pictures, concedes that there is discrimination against women in such jobs and that in some male-dominated professions at the box office. "Everybody suffers from the same lack of diversity," said Benham. "It's just worse for women because there aren't as many roles offered to them." A few male filmmakers have helped to rebalance that situation. One is writer-director John Schlesinger, whose *Passion* (due in a conflict, sensitive side to female director).

These are women who take time with the whole notion that their gender is unfairly depicted. "It's behind me all the male psycho killers," said Trempelton. And some female filmmakers reveal the expectations that they will produce female films. One of them is Kathryn Bigelow, 50, who in recent years has emerged as an energetic player in the industry with *New Dark* (1987), the story of an eco-

Demore
bending
the rules,
and
casting
a wide
net to
find best
actress
nominations



Dei Moore a pro-woman agenda

teric gang of modern-day ninjas, *Die Hard* (1988), in which Jamie Lee Curtis plays a tough New York City police officer, and *Past Perfect* (1989), starring Patrick Swayze as a hardboiled beat cop. "I don't think there's anything biological or cultural that makes a woman less inclined to be a hero in pictures than men," said Bigelow. During an interview in the disheveled room of her elegant bungalow in the Hollywood Hills, Bigelow said that idea that "feminism has led to less with gender than with the artistic process—some of the most amazing paintings, sculptures, or even music have been created by men."

Other film makers disagree, and describe their role as creating as capably pro-woman agendas—recapitulations of the type of movie in which New Line's Butler has concerns all its episodes of the successful *A Night on the Barefoot* series. From the first installment in 1984, she has used her role as chairman to ensure that the director Freddy Krueger kill male as well as female characters—and that he do so in a situation other than a grotesque afterlife. "That broke the rule of the better films," said Butler, "in which the woman is always killed right after having sex, presumably in punishment for having it, and generally while she's not yet dressed."

Denise Di Novi, producer of such hits as *Edward Scissorhands* (1990), about a cannibalistic man who's forced to be a boy whose hands are made of scissors, and *Between Sisters*, said that during the making of the *Batman* sequel, the engineered similar changes to Piff's character. Defending Costanza,

Di Novi, 37, who heads a production unit of Columbia Pictures, pointed to the character's refusal, during her daytime surreal job to get up with the domestic team of her boss. "Costanza's whole idea was to be a feminist one."

Others are a growing trend toward action movies that is subject matter and tone are explicitly directed at female audiences. Di Novi pointed to the success of *Thelma & Louise* (1991), starring Streisand and Geena Davis as class friends who drive away from their home lives and into a feminist revenge—a trend up can write. "It was a good film that was a hit," said Di Novi of the \$20-million box office success.

For her part, Streisand applauded that the movie's appeal had a lot to do with women's post-up frustrations. "The picture's a classic road thriller," said the actress, "but it's also a little bit of every woman's rage and rebellion." Streisand, 46, who lives in Manhattan with actor and film-maker Tim Allen and their two children, aged 3 and seven months, is one high-profile political activist who publicly protested against the Gulf War. "Women are pissed off," said recently. "The language of the Republican party is very macho—it's all about being a guy. During the Gulf War that's all you heard, one person after another."

Noam to put her doubts to rest, she believes her career and to try to find her acting jobs around her children's schedules. Streisand says that *Lawrence of Arabia* appeared in her "because the movie 'is about questioning authority.' And the actress sometimes pushes for the inclusion of political content in her films, while shooting *Lawrence's* OVI, she insisted that the producers add some lines about the unsustainability of experimental treatment for AIDS.

Many filmmakers say that the challenge is to find vehicles that are both entertaining and informed by a social perspective. "We have a director and director Julie Foster and that she feels 'it's responsibility to create human characters for women.' Added Foster: "Most of the scripts that you read, it's amazing how often and often like women's roles are."

Unhappy? Costanza studies to make intelligent, believable female characters can be difficult. Director Martha Coolidge, whose most recent movie was the critically acclaimed *Runaway Train* (1990), for which actress Laura Dern and Diane Ladd won best actress and best supporting actress nominations, respectively, said that it took a total of 17 years to find a studio willing to make that movie. Set during the Depression, it tells the story of a unusually intelligent young woman who becomes the housekeeper of a conservative southern family. "The problem," said Coolidge, who has put off adding shooting *Last in London*, with Mercedes Ruehl and Richard Dreyfuss, was that *Runaway Train* depicted women as actual subjects instead of secret objects. That was a point of view Hollywood wasn't interested in."

Foster, with her own stories, actresses themselves are also working to change the kinds of films that Hollywood is producing. In recent years, such high-profile figures as Streisand, Cher and Geena Davis have founded their own production companies in an attempt to get onto their own material. Those who do not have the inclination to

create their own companies are becoming increasingly clonish about the roles they will take. "More and more," said Di Novi. "The powerful actresses are publishing that they don't want to do certain things, or that they don't want to do certain things."

Geena Davis, the star of last summer's surprise hit *A League of Their Own*, the story of an all-woman baseball league in the 1940s, has adopted such a stance. "There seems to be this whole rash of movies now where the whole goal is to make the audience to women. Kill the bitch!" said Davis. "I don't want to be part of that." She is currently shooting a romantic comedy, *Jezebel*, 3 Sept. with director Coolidge.

Bewdy? But even in work they create sympathetic scripts and characters, many actresses say that they have little control over Hollywood's sexist approach to aging. Despite the example of actresses like McClintock, even young, beautiful actresses say that they feel the clock ticking. "I'm not worried about age—just fix my very much that this is my window of time," said Pfeiffer. 19-year-old Streisand and Streisand were in *Thelma & Louise* and nobody knew a guy. When he was 60, he was the sexiest man in the world," added Pfeiffer. "But just not going to happen for women—not in my lifetime."

Despite all the obstacles, some women express optimism that a



Moore (left), Clooney: depicting women as sexual subjects

recent spate of quirky, eccentric movies may encourage studios to think more critically about big budget, male-control films. Said writer Foster: "It's not an accident that *The Crying Game* (see below) was the best film of the last year. It was made by a woman who felt in love with a male transsexual and *Howards End* are out there getting large audiences and nominations for best picture," she added. "People are tired of *Far and Away* (the forgettable 1992 epic starring Tim Cruise) and these big, huge movies that are going forward on them."

And it may be women themselves, in their own careers—who lead that trend. Streisand and Pfeiffer, who are both producers, said that they are changing to the film that has female themes are making lots of money—sometimes more than male action buddy films. "All the success of *A League of Their Own*," she noted, added director Fajer. "Most of the movies that I've made are totally women who loved that and who brought their own husbands to see it." By contrast, Butler pointed to the dismal performance of *Diffy*, starring Jack Nicholson as the crooked Transsexual boss, as evidence that women influence a film's success. "I mean, almost no women were interested in going to see that," she said.

As Oscar nominees women accomplished, the biggest challenge facing women in Hollywood didn't involve creating characters and movies that appeal to their own sensibilities—and to substantial audiences—while firing a system that gives them the opportunity to do so. "There are no tricks, there is no formula," said Bigelow. "Ultimately it's a male-dominated industry, and the way forward is to create something that somebody else wants to see." She added, "If you are a woman in this industry at this time, that happens to mean being the equivalent of a black man. But Hollywood is a white track with diversity." On the trail of *Thelma & Louise*, women film makers are gearing up for a bigger role in Hollywood.

VICTOR PETER in Los Angeles

DESIGNING WOMEN

When the conversation at current Hollywood parties turns to television, four names are likely to arise. All of them belong to women: Mancy Carrey (Hornet), Linda Bloodworth-Thomson (Dancing Queens, Miami Affair), Diane English (Murphy Brown, Law and Order) and networker Beth Sullivan (The Goodies). And all are the reigning on-air psychopaths of the small screen. They are viewed in the way that Aaron Spelling (Charlie's Angels) and Norman Lear (All in the Family) were two decades ago. Their companies have produced some of the most popular shows on network television, with Carrey's *Hornet*, rated fourth in the United States and first on Canada's CTV network according to A. C. Nielsen Co., leading the pack. And they have created uniformly strong, independent-minded heroines acted at length on men who refuse to take their seriously. Declared Hunter Stevenson, executive director of the Los Angeles-based Women in Film organization, "They are activists. They have a voice—and they use it."

Increasing numbers of female writers, directors, producers and, to a lesser extent, senior executives are helping to change the face of American television. Although overall the status of women in TV is still slight, there are proportionately more women working in the medium than in feature films, and they have more influence. That stronger women's participation in the small screen is one reason why, in 1990, according to a Screen Actors Guild survey, women had 56 per cent of TV roles, compared with 38 per cent of feature roles.

Headsets: The main cluster is more likely to be a woman in prime-time television than in movies. In recent years, the small screen has been a profession of such assertive females as TV journalists and single mother Murphy Brown, played by Candice Bergen, or the tough-talking working mother Roseanne, portrayed by Roseanne Arnold. In current big-budget comedies, meanwhile, the lead female characters are often psychopaths, such as *Beats* or both *White Collar* Debra Morgan's career story in *The Road That Rocks the Cables*. Sharon Stone's husband is brutalized in *Basic Instinct* or they are more sophisticated male females (the wives and girlfriends in *Wells*, *Chicago* and dozens of other movies). Said Linda Yellen, an award-winning television producer, writer and director: "The big advantage in TV is that you have heroines who are female rather than being window dressing for male-driven films."

Still, women remain a distinct minority behind the camera and in the TV industry's executive suites. A 1990 study by Women in Film and the National Commission on Working Women found that in prime-time television that year, only 25 per cent of writers, 15 per cent of producers and nine per cent of executives were female. Few of the women working in television actually climb to the top echelons of the networks, where deal decisions about programming are made. Only Fox has a woman at the very top, Lucie Salant, who earlier this year became chair-

Although females still have a long way to go on the small screen, they have made some big inroads



English, *Queen in series from Murphy Brown* (top right), *Bloodworth-Thomson* (right) and *Carrey's* most popular characters are strong-minded women

man of the network. "A handful of women have risen," said Bloodworth-Thomson. "Everyone else is way down the totem pole."

And for every Murphy Brown or Roseanne, there are several *Drives*, *Heartsies*, *Midnight* women—and more-often-overlooked actresses. Often based on true stories, TV movies still tend to focus women who have suffered abuse, grossed out by a variety of violent acts. Indeed, sensitive women are bottlenecked every day in American TV drama. Bloodworth-Thomson told *Midweek*: "I am tired of women raped, tortured and killed. I wish women could rise up across the U.S. and Canada and say, 'Well no, we are not going to watch this any more.'"

The fact that female characters are more prevalent in television than in feature films stems mainly from the fact that more women than men watch TV. While men outnumber women at the movie box office according to a 1984 study conducted by the Motion

Picture Association, projecting on cable channels—including the cable-oriented Lifetime TV channel, which is geared specifically to women.

Still, in many cases it has taken a woman executive to convince network programmers to respond to these gender demographics. "The concept that women control the TV set was threatening to male executives," said Los Angeles-based Canadian TV producer Caryn Singer, who fought to put *Midweek*, the first starring Angela Lansbury as a cop, on network air, on the airwaves. Singer, who was the vice-president of drama development at CBS until she left in 1985, recalls that her male colleagues recently opposed the proposal about an elderly, female private detective. "It was tough, in Old Boys place," she told *Midweek*. "They kept asking me who would watch an elderly woman. I replied, 'Your mother and mine.'"

The show, which has been running since 1985, now ranks eighth in the Nielsen U.S. ratings and first on Canada's Global network.

These frustrations, along with the powerful glass ceiling that women encounter in most industries, have led some females in television to seek their fortunes outside the networks. Many ambitious women have found that there were greater opportunities at cable channels. Indeed, the children's service Nickelodeon, the movie-based USA Network and female-oriented Lifetime all have women as senior programming positions.

Problems: But the executives women in television have tracked out on their own, setting up production companies to create some of the outer networks' most popular offerings. Mancy Carrey set up her own firm in 1980, after a stint as an executive at ABC. A year later Tony Werner, a former ABC colleague, broke her partner in the Carrey-Werner Co. They went on to create *The Cosby Show*, *A Different World* and their current hit, *Roseanne*. Linda Bloodworth-Thomson, English and Sullivan, Carrey's niece, now *Beats*, as partly a result of her insistence on being relevant to contemporary women. Unlike other warfare TV models, including even *Charlie's Angels* in Carrey-Werner's own *Cosby Show*, who was a lawyer but never seemed to actually go to work, *Roseanne* clearly has a life outside the house—and feels the stress of her double duty. Said Caryn Mandabach, president of Carrey-Werner: "We were able to appreciate it. We had it to be a weekend movie. This is a show about a woman and her family. Only was a show about a man and his family. The point of that show was not to be, not about coping."

Bloodworth-Thomson, 45, was a freelance scriptwriter until she joined Moser Productions with her husband, director producer Harry Thomson, 39 years ago. Their first success, *Dancing Queens*, which focuses on the four outcasts, middle-aged women who compete in a weekly television dance competition, was a hit. They then established Bloodworth-Thomson as a TV producer with a distinctly female, liberal sensibility. The show is now in its seventh season; the real her husband, who are close friends and smoked social smokers to President Bill Clinton and his wife, Hillary, consolidated that



Seven readers say that Carrey, Bloodworth-Thomson, English and others like them might not have won the respect for their professions without being in partnership with men. Naled Silverman of Women in Film: "I have heard from more women producers than I want to say that needs a man to pitch a story. I am beginning to believe it." Still, Sullivan was able to create the new *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman* independently—she is the first woman to both create a prime-time network drama and serve as its executive producer (the show, which stars Jane Seymour as a post-Edith War doctor, has emerged as a major hit).

Sensibilities: Independent release from the major networks has not necessarily been the salvation of women at the TV industry. Many women say that the Old Boys club is still alive, well and as closed as ever. "Men have replaced all themselves," said Mandabach. "They are not thinking. It is passive aggression. They don't have relationships."

Women also tend to be ghettoized in low-organized sections of the industry, especially movies of the week. Writer Stephanie Loo says that again and again she seriously felt excluded to become a well-known writer—and to be a woman. She says she has been very successful in her career, but she has not been able to get into the same level of the industry. She said Mandabach: "I make \$250,000 to \$300,000 more than the male writers who have reached my status and generated the same number of awards."

As they agitate her, unmarked status in the television industry, many women inspired the Old Boys network with an image of humor. Mandabach's account is the recent appointment of David O'Keefe as NBC's new head of entertainment, noting that O'Keefe is a good friend and golfing partner of Jack Welch, chairman of General Electric, which owns the network. "My best advice to young women is to learn to pull," she said. "The women have to be more aggressive."

But for the deal of the industry, women are fighting for equal pay on television.

ANNE GREGORY on Los Angeles

reputation with their snarky, often comedy series. *Arresting Suspects* which first appeared in 1990 and the more successful *Arresting Suspects* after launched last fall.

Life: Bloodworth-Thomson English, 44, is also in partnership with her husband, Joel Silverman, creating *Murphy Brown* with her in 1988. Last fall they worked on a web series called *Love and War* starring Susan Dey and Jay Thomas in a consistently squabbling lovers. The two shows are consistently among the top 25 in the United States according to Nielsen, with *Murphy Brown* holding the fourth spot on Canada's TV network. English who guested recently last spring when Vice-President Dan Quayle moved this last fall. Murphy Brown was having a hard time on her own, attributes that show's success to the title character's delicate streak. Said English: "She is a woman functioning in a man's world and, in a way, being as a woman, she is not as accepted as men. It's what we're doing for it whatever we do." "All of us have that man in us but not all of us have the courage to do it and to be like her."

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THROUGH WOMEN'S EYES

FEMALE VISIONS THRIVE IN CANADA

When Kim Todd disbanded her film production company in 1981 for creative reasons, she had acquired a wealth of experience. From budgeting to directing and editing, then when she applied for the position of first assistant director on a feature movie, she landed on-it-it was. "The guy doing the hiring told me, 'Kim, I know you're really good. It's just that this one's a tough shoot and I really need someone with balls,'" Todd recalled on an afternoon. "I told him I could do a lot of things, but I couldn't grow balls, but that guy was a fool!" It is unlikely that Todd would encounter such discrimination now. As a producer for Toronto-based Atlantic Films for eight years, the 37-year-old has produced movies and TV series and dramas for both Canadian and American screens—including *The Diviners*, a movie adaptation of Margaret Laurence's celebrated novel, which aired on CBC in January. "I think it's better now than 10 years ago, especially in certain media categories," Todd said. "But it's not just due to the general shift of society. It's because women are acknowledged the leaders and are actively working to change them."

Like their counterparts in the United States, Canadian women are underrepresented in both film and television, particularly in positions with creative control. A 1990 national study commissioned by Toronto Women in Film and Television (TWFTV) revealed that, in 1989, females accounted for only 14 per cent of the industry's full-time creative positions. The same figure applied to women in upper management in public-sector television and radio compared to the private sector; that figure was only one per cent, Barbara Beasely, a producer and co-president of TWFTV, speculates that the situation has improved slightly since then because of employment-equity programs and an expanding pool of qualified writers. "But a lot of it gets down to individuals making choices," said Beasely. "And if those individuals are women, in decision-making positions, then things can change faster."

There is a general perception that changes are indeed changing faster in Canada, where opportunities for women appear greater than in the United States, despite the small size of the Canadian industry. The reasons government-funded agencies. Self women director Anne Wheeler: "It's easier in Canada for women to be directing at all. There are good support systems like Telefilm and places like the NFB and CBC where women can make smaller films to gain experience and confidence and a sense of their own voices." Todd meanwhile, noted this "in the Hollywood studios it's another story. You're mostly dealing with men who will say things like, 'I'll have my girl call you.' I was completely mistaken for someone's assistant."

Several leading female figures in Canadian film and television spoke with *McGraw-Hill's* Associate Editor Diane Turbide about gender politics in the industry. Excerpts:

Debra Meitzner, 62, is the director of *Sins & Mac* and *Canicola*, a \$10 million film starring Jonico Tandy and Debra Meitzner, which Meitzner and her husband are filming in Toronto as *April*.

Women should be free to do any money they want. Canada is a wonderful story about an old and a young woman on the road, with a terrific script and characters written by Paul Quigley. But if a woman wants to make *David*, *Paul*, *Seven*, then fine. There's no feeling that women can't do certain

things—or shouldn't because they're betraying their gender in a way, but the very fact that a woman can control a large-budget film is itself changing perceptions.

All things being equal—that is, if the experience and experience are equal—I prefer to work with women. There's less tension. I don't mean sexual tension. But in movies, there is a sense that you have to keep your guard up on the set every day and, particularly about the technical aspect of films. Crews are still mostly male, although it's slowly changing. Who needs that kind of tension? It's hard enough.

Anne Wheeler, 45, recently directed the TV drama *The Doctors*. She is currently working on a movie for ABC in Vancouver.

It's still very hard to make movies about women, about their lives, about being brave together, having adventures. There's more of a need for women on TV. But in movies, people think of *Melanie* and *Love and Sex*. Oh, it's horrendous. Meanwhile, you have endless movies about male buddies being chased on every day. We have to fight and claw, and I will still feel we have much control over what stories are being told, what our kids see. That's where the argument is.

Debra Meitzner (a story about a Jewish poet in 15th-century Canada) is a



Jonico Tandy (right) in *The Diviners*: a strong role



McBride: "I prefer to work with women—there's less tension"

woman story. Always took a big risk and spent a lot of money to go make it, and I certainly give them credit for that. But I also thought, 'I know I could have sold a story about a man in the Canadian winter movie a million years.'

Patricia Beasely, 34, had an international hit with her first feature film, *The Hidden* (Miramax, 1989). She is working on a script while developing a movie based on the life of Canadian-born actress Marilyn Monroe.

Talking about discrimination is largely as damaging to an individual's ability to succeed. It's easier for me to carry on by ignoring my barriers. I take the attitude, by whatever means, get it done. I think it's much more empowering to point to women who have succeeded. The most eloquent feminist statement I can make is a good film.

Barbara Beasely, 38, is a producer of the current CBC series *Back of 80* and former executive story editor on CTV's television miniseries *Assault on E.M.G.*

You have to be aggressive and walk into a meeting and take over the room. All those qualities are admired in male men. For close to 10 years, I take battle and form of personality—fairy things when faced in female bodies. Any woman working in upper management in any industry will tell you the same thing. You're always balancing the definition of what the requirements are against the definition of what a woman is supposed to be about. Sometimes it can crush your pride like it requires a certain bloody mad-dread.



McCarthy: "The ones it is us"

for a woman to take hold of a technical crew and drive them, as a director or producer does. Women who have risen to the top are women who have needed to be told no.

Shirley McCarthy, 37, was the star of *Barbarella*. The Howard Stern's *Savage* and has had support roles in several Hollywood movies. She has had her role in her recently completed Canadian feature *The Lotus Gates*.

I think the area is as us to change things. If there aren't enough good roles for women, especially women past 35, then we have to write them. I had two Hollywood movies open, *Staying Out* and *Parade*, and after that nothing was happening. Finally, I realized "Oh, I see. It just gets harder. I have to go out and make things happen." Now, I've just landed something my first screenplay, a comedy thriller with a female lead. It's the most I've ever had. Now, I want to produce it or get it produced.

Jean Penner, 49, is the first woman chairman of the National Film Board, where an employment equity program aims to have an equal number of men and women across all positions by 1991.

One goal is to get a variety of experiences represented in film and television. Increasing the number of points of view available on screen is not taking anything away from anybody. In fact, it leads to more and better programming, new TV series, movies.

I hope the day will come when a woman is necessary to have the kind of progress that have to stand on equitable positions for women, the women of color, for Aboriginal Canadians. But until then, we have to remain vigilant and persistent. Someone could say, "Well, there's a lot of the 1970s. I guess we've achieved our objective." Quite accurate. A responsibility, a challenge, in women at the top is to be very clear, very practical and very persistent.

Suzette Couture is the second-generation co-owner of the enormously successful CBC newsmagazine *News and History* and Co-Executive of *Slackline*. She is the executive producer and co-writer of a newly released film, *Ames*.

I have never felt any barriers. The only comment I ever heard in that was from an American agent, and it was intended as a compliment to me. He said: "It's great. She's a woman who will write like a man." Men are not uncontrollable working with me because they think I don't have an overly feminist point of view. As long as the story comes along, then the men don't worry. I don't consciously promote a feminist point of view, but when I analyze my own work, I see that it's there.

Brigitte Beasely, 42, is an independent filmmaker whose *Artie Shaw: Year in New York* has won the Academy Award in 1987 for best feature-length documentary. In January, she went to Los Angeles for a tribute to female Oscar winners. Beasely is now developing a dramatic feature with three female leads.

It was a real shot in the arm to be down in L.A. with these dynamic women who have succeeded in the industry that I made no realistic that women still had a way to go. I think out of more than 2,000 awards, women only got about 220. I sensed a real determination that women were going to go that extra mile. Being in that room made me realize how far we could go and how far we will go.

BOOKS

Tropic of eros

A feminist praises Henry Miller's candor

THE DEVIL AT LARGE
By Erica Jung
(Random House, \$37 pages, \$20)

NEEDLY no decision after due 1994 publication of his groundbreaking novel, *Tropic of Cancer*, Henry Miller is still the bad boy of American literature. His robust candor in sexual matters ensured that his books were not legally published in his own country until the 1960s.

And even when such underground classics as *Cancer*, *Black Spring* and *Tropic of Cancer* became widely available, they soon made new enemies among feminists who, led by author and critic Kate Millet, condemned Miller as a monster of sexism. Miller is now excluded from the reading lists of most North American universities—although at least one female intellectual and feminist is willing to support him. In her new book, *The Devil at Large*, novelist Erica Jung argues that Miller has been misunderstood. While condemning his sexism, she makes a strong case for Miller as one of the great readers American writers, a visionary who claimed that his sexuality was the key to a new life.

The Devil at Large is less a conventional biography than a personal memoir, strongly laced with Jung's own opinions about life and art. The earlier reveals that the first read Miller when she was struggling to begin her nonfictional novel of feminine sexuality, *For a Ring*, in 1955. "The three characteristics of Miller's great and seductive something in me," she writes in *The Devil at Large*. When her novel appeared, Miller praised the book in a letter, indicating a friendship that lasted until his death in 1981. At that time, Miller was living in a house on the cliffs of Capri, Italy. In New York City in 1981, he had spent his most productive writing years in Paris in the 1930s. He was in his 50s when Jung first met him and discovered that the man who had written about himself as the highest luxu-

tion of male vigor had become a shuffling figure, "battered over an atomized reality." But he still had abundant energy for conversation. "He was spiritually younger than me," Jung writes. "His exuberance was like a shot of the life force."

Jung says that she spent many enjoyable hours with Miller, but that after his death, when she set out to write about her friend, she found herself blocked by negative feel-

ings, violent, and with graphic descriptions of his perceptions while making love or using the sexual skills of Paris.

For Jung, Miller's openness about such matters gives his books a liberating power. "He accepts all the enticements of life," she writes, "and his acceptance gives the reader the gift of self-acceptance." Jung goes on to argue that feminists and other critics who have condemned Miller for his language of violent sex have confused the word with the deed. "Henry is not a rapist," she points out. "He is a man honestly confronting the imaginary rapist in himself." And she goes on to say that because of such frankness, "Ultimately Miller can be a stranger face for feminists than his male characters."

Jung spends much of *The Devil at Large* insisting that Miller is much more than an unconventional novelist; he is a sage dispensing curly wisdom. Such is arguable in just possible, because Jung readily admits that Miller was often a loud, too he wrote bad books as well as good ones and he was chaotically dependent on the many women who passed through his life. But despite long periods of poverty and obscurity, his singular expression of life remained intact until the end, as did his insistence that pleasure in the physical leads ultimately to the spiritual. That is the message Jung writes, of what she considers to be Miller's greatest book, *The Colossus of Maroussi*. His rhapsodic 1941 account of a tour of Greece, Miller's vision of redemption through sexiness being, Jung argues, goes well beyond the furthest, and guilty sex obsessions of North American society. For Miller, sex is a force that is meant to touch all facets of life with a radiant openness.

Like Miller, Jung herself sometimes finds prey in isolationism. She argues women to live from the example of Miller's honesty, and no the end part besides female reviewers who savage other women's books. She also lays too much stress on Miller as a wildman creature who unconsciously poured everything that occurred to him into his novels (in fact, his best work is much more artfully shaped than she admits). But her passion for Miller is infectious. She also, she writes, is to find new readers for Miller and to help bring about the revolution in sexual attitudes without which she argues, Western society is doomed—a revolution in which Miller's books will help light the way. It is a tall order, and probably impossible to fill. Yet there is no denying that in a world where speed and materialism rule, Miller's vision of a robust enjoyment of life's simple pleasures is, sadly, a revolutionary one.

JOHN HOSKINS

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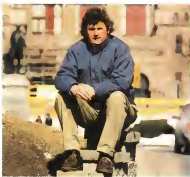
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MUSIC

Sweet laments

John McDermott's singing touches the heart



McDermott: songs of war and poetry, a voice that caresses clean and sweetness

Most of the hits on *Danny Boy*, John McDermott's first solo album, are well-loved, unlikely to entice anyone onto the dance floor. But across Canada the Toronto artist's collection of war-related songs and ones of the Irish lullaby and a heart-warmer, such as the Irish lullaby, "The First World War," and the Second World War, are just what the doctor ordered.

Before *Danny Boy* McDermott gained exposure as an author singer at Blue Jays baseball games and Maple Leafs hockey matches. Meanwhile, singing live at parties was a passion that eventually won a huge dividend that was how he met such powerful financiers as Conrad Black and Trevor Eylon, who invested in his recording project.

McDermott sings music that is in his genes. His paternal grandfather was born and raised in Bellefonte, County Antrim, in Northern Ireland, and his other grandfather moved in the Glasgow shippards. John McDermott, who is the son of Peter and Hope McDermott's 12 children, moved to the northern Toronto suburb of Willowdale with the family in 1965, when he was 9. There, his family and neighbors with Scottish backgrounds gathered on Saturday nights to watch NFL games on TV and sing the old songs from home. "To hear John singing

now, you'd think you were listening to his dad years ago," said Hase McDermott.

When John McDermott was 14, his talent was shown in St. Michael's Choir School in Toronto. After graduation, he and some of his classmates called themselves The Minstrelsy and sang songs from school. But McDermott gave little thought to a future musical career. "The last track of the recordings I've done, the perfect I've written," he recalled recently. "I somebody would a singer. I'd show up." J. Douglas Craghton, who was the chief executive officer of The Toronto Star and the last job in a newspaper career in November, also asked McDermott to sing for his collection of songs.

Craghton's song created a ripple effect, ultimately presenting the leading for *Danny Boy*. In 1990, McDermott performed at an award dinner hosted in Toronto by publishing magnate Black and his company Hargrave Inc., with Peter Martin, Brian Mulroney and former president Ronald Reagan in attendance. Contacted recently at his London office by Maclean's Black praised McDermott's "remarkably melodious voice" and his willingness to sing at that dinner without compensation at any expectation of being paid. "When he sang, everyone," Black said, "I was well-satisfied to be one of them."

McDermott's musical tastes range from the clear baritone of The Mills Brothers to the haunting lyrics of John Marshall. But *Danny Boy* reveals his spiritual kinship with such traditional Irish songs as "The First World War" and "The Second World War" and "The Irish Lullaby" with its haunting lyrics and a soft, unaccompanied melody, appear on the album. McDermott also performs such one-sided songs as "My First World War" and "The Irish Lullaby" with its haunting lyrics and a soft, unaccompanied melody, appear on the album.

Several songs, including *And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda* by Australian Eric Bogle, are about the First World War. The Sox is singing, by Scottish's Ian Campbell, with the Second World War, about the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. "The First World War and the Second World War" are about so many people," said McDermott. "These people who weren't involved in those wars were exposed to them in some way or another, they were exposed." He has recorded a version of *The Sun is Shining in Japanese* for the album's release in Japan.

McDermott, who lives in Toronto with his wife, Polish-born Agnieszka, says that he is still writing out his life in the wake of *Danny Boy*'s success. He has plans for his first Canadian tour and now has a five-album contract with Capitol Records Ltd. of Canada.

With its songs of war and poetry and death on the battlefield, *Danny Boy* is, as McDermott has observed, "not very happy." But his mother, whose speech recalls the song of her cousin Glenn, recently allowed an explanation for the album's popularity. "When people learn to it, someone come back to them, and they all have their own story."

PAMELA YOUNG

FILMS

Killer in a miniskirt

A bad girl becomes a lethal lady

POINT OF NO RETURN
Directed by John Badham

First there was *The Fanning*, director George Seaton's Hollywood version of his own 1988 Dutch thriller. Then, the 1993 French novel *The Baron of Marston* came to U.S. theatres as *Somewhere, a legend* Richard Gere-Jodie Foster vehicle. Now, *Point of No Return* in the latest movie to come out of the European Hollywood pipeline. Not one to mess with success, director John Badham has created a clone of French filmmaker Luc Besson's 1994 hit, *La Femme Nikita*. Still, *Point of No Return* is more than a cheap ripoff of a French



Fonda's second, dangerous

movie—it is a well-oiled, slickly produced ripoff.

Maggie (Christy Fonda) has been a bad girl. A sociopathic drug addict with jailhouse tattoos and bad teeth, she shoots a policeman during a bungled drugstore robbery and is sentenced to death. But she gets a second chance when a secret U.S. government agency likes her execution and recruits her as a assassin. Under the tutelage of the drug dealer Bob (Robert DeNiro), who gives her a new wardrobe, a new identity and some dental work, Maggie blossoms into a sophisticated

woman. This is no *My Fair Lady*, however. Bob is grooming her charge to become a professional assassin. Armed with a big gun

and a killer mindset, Maggie travels around the United States murdering people for Bob's amusement. But when she falls for a witty photographer (Steven Seagal) and begins to feel bad about killing, she finds assassination a difficult business to leave behind.

Like its predecessor, *Point of No Return* suffers from a tedious love story and disposable psychobabble. Still, it is roughly entertaining, thanks largely to fast-paced violence and to strong performances from Byrne and Seagal as a small but deadly killing machine. And although Fonda has some trouble expressing the emotional conflicts of a reluctant assassin, it is refreshing to see a woman in a Hollywood movie doing more than screaming and getting killed. As Maggie, Fonda gives as good as she gets.

Perhaps that is *Point of No Return's* strength: it has the feel and sensibility attitude of a new-wave French film. In fact, except for the actors, the location and the lack of subtlety, so the important aspects of it is a new-wave French film—namely, *Nikita*, with which it shares plot, characters and even, at times, cultural clues. At least director Badham had the good sense to faithfully reproduce an entertaining movie.

JOE CHIDLEY

The Madman's Best-Seller List now appears in *Opening Night* (page 6)

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In California, the jig is up

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

There is before us, as we stroll the driveway and slip on the ice, slumps the California Dream. Hence, cure-free girls as the beach in March. Outrigger hawks on their surfboards searching for the ultimate wave. People in shorts and sunglasses headed for the office. The world hunts for California, America's greatest creation.

In March, 1993, the dream has gone sour. The recession won't end, the demise of the Cold War has stopped the largest and richest state into reality and a growth that can't be controlled has turned into racial tensions that frighten even the most courageous.

It T. Collins sits in his office in the state capital in Sacramento, in the mid-fifties of the Cold War has stopped the largest and richest state into reality and a growth that can't be controlled has turned into racial tensions that frighten even the most courageous.

It T. Collins sits in his office in the state capital in Sacramento, in the mid-fifties of the Cold War has stopped the largest and richest state into reality and a growth that can't be controlled has turned into racial tensions that frighten even the most courageous.

The problem with this spoiled state, explains T. Collins with extreme contempt, is that it doesn't understand the word sacrifice. It has been brought up on the image of the happy Mondays and the surfing bunnies, and can't get off it while the world has changed.

The world changed and the Cold War ended and suddenly we didn't need all that rockery and high-tech amiable industry that kept California out there on the edge. A Bill Clinton once said and said that we have to get serious about the deficit and also military issues that have been kept alive over in here congressmen's jobs that to me as agent as money that doesn't exist any more.

Suddenly, Sacramento realizes that the closing of the McClellan Air Force Base will cost 15,000 jobs when the economy is already



on the downturn. Suddenly, the Oakland A's, eager to get the World Series championship back from the Toronto Blue Jays, with a \$60 million payroll that almost matches the outrageous Toronto bid, realize that the base cut back will deprive them of the patronage of the 3,500 personnel and families of the visiting bullpen at the dock down by the bay.

Down in Los Angeles, the most significant shift in the economy is the north exodus in the sale of plywood in the lumber stores. That would be an indication of the verdict in the second Rodney King trial, while the city loses as over further uncontrolled violence that is openly expected if a jury should replicate the incredible sequence of the first jury who bent into a pulp—before the videotaped view of a world audience—a hooded black drake.

The state that with 31 million dreamers has a larger population than Canada—and has (and) the sixth largest economy of any coun-

try on earth—is strangled by its dream. It has 11,000 prisoners in its federal prisons. That's more than double all those locked in federal prisons in the rest of the United States.

It costs \$35,000 a year per prisoner. That's on top of the \$100,000 it costs to build and maintain a cell. It's cheaper to send your kid to Stanford. The latest growing concern in the state budget is for prisons. The most powerful union in the state is the prison guards union. Last year, it gave \$3 million to the election campaign of Gov. Pete Wilson. It is the only Republican trade union currently on record.

"We don't make anything here," explains B. T. Collins in his tiny Sacramento office, decorated with Reader's Digest reprints drinking his war heroes. "We don't make cars. Delivery is going. The only thing we make is oranges. They pay \$1 for an orange in Tokyo."

Do they help out? Of course not! (B. T. Collins does the day after this interview, of a massive heart attack, at 50, while waiting to meet with Gen. Colin Powell, chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to protest for base closures.)

California has a problem. By law, dictated by the dream voters who won't sacrifice, the state is not allowed to have a deficit. So, state Treasurer Kathleen Brown—sister of former governor Jerry Brown, daughter of former governor Pat Brown—estimates that the jurisdiction that everyone expects will probably not end at many more in April or May, some time short of the June just get. No one has the faintest idea what to do then. The voters who won't sacrifice, wait.

The state that sends the largest number of congressmen to Washington is girdling, on the closing of bases, with a President, who won't elect in the process—it's the economy, stupid—that he would slash spending wherever he could find it.

He finds it in a state that has grown rich on military bases and leading edge computer industries that are built on satellites and Flash Gordon fantasies in the paradigm, the influx of webcasts from Mexico and immigrants from the Pacific Rim has turned Los Angeles into a popular law ready to blow.

The golden girls on the beach and the blow-dried boys on their roller blades on Mulholland Beach have both been out of the dreamer's watches, telling them how much time they have before the Rodney King verdict. We've had the earthquakes and the devastating bush fires.

Now the time is up. What's the next phase out of this paradox?

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